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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2014

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HELPING IN THE QUEST FOR DIABETES CURE

## Mum's emergency scare with baby son leads to an Island fundraiser



ABOVE:  
 Rebecca Jones and her son Dylan.

A determined Barry mum, whose baby son was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes after being rushed into accident and emergency, is holding a fundraiser which she hopes will help in the quest for a cure.

Rebecca Jones, aged 23, said her son Dylan was close to falling into a coma when emergency staff worked out what was wrong with him.

Rebecca said: "Dylan is two and a half years old and a happy, healthy boy, but just before he was 15 months old, in October 2012, he was very ill.

**Report by**  
**TIM**  
**CHAPMAN**

"He began coughing, and I took him to the doctor, who said there wasn't an infection or virus.

"He was also sleeping constantly and for a couple of days had a runny nose. Then he began throwing up his food."

Next, Dylan began drinking an unusual amount of fluid and by now Rebecca was very concerned. She took him to the out of hours unit at Barry Hospital who decided he should go to the University Hospital of Wales in an ambulance. He travelled there with an oxygen mask on to help him with his breathing.

"There were about 20 people around him in A & E. They discovered it was diabetes - another couple of days and he would have been in a coma."

Rebecca felt relief. At last she knew what had caused Dylan so much distress, but it also meant a new chapter in his life, making sure he had the right treatment.

"At the hospital I learned all about diabetes, and the ins and outs of looking after him."

Dylan was suffering from DKA - diabetic ketoacidosis. A high amount of sugar in his blood was turning it acidic.

He has now been put on a hospital trial using an insulin pump which has advantages over multi-

ple daily injections.

Rebecca said: "As a mum, my dream is that one day he is cured."

Rebecca has decided to organise a fundraising event at Barry Island Conservative Club on March 21 at 7pm. Tickets are £5 and people can pay on the door or contact Rebecca by email (for details see the end of the article).

The proceeds will go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation which funds research into Type 1 diabetes.

"We have a group of dancers called 'Dance Angels', who have performed on *Britain's Got Talent* and *Sky 1's Got to Dance*.

"A local DJ is also offering his services for the night."

"We will be doing a raffle on the night and have already started collecting prizes from local businesses."

"I don't know other local families who are coping with Type 1 Diabetes. It would be good if they came along and I got to meet them."

"Hopefully, one day there will be a cure for all adults and children, so daily blood sugar tests and needles are finally a thing of the past."

If readers would like to buy a ticket, or donate a prize for the raffle, Rebecca can be contacted at: animeangel0@yahoo.co.uk

For more information on the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, go to: www.jdrf.org.uk

## Vale Council could put aside £55K for Barry summer entertainment

THE Vale Council cabinet meets next Monday (February 10) to consider allocating £55,000 to fund seven weekends of summer entertainment in Barry Island.

The report to cabinet says that planned attractions include the 'Isle of Fire' opening event, Cinema by the Sea, street art,

dance, live music and sports.

The National Beach Volleyball Championship is also scheduled to return to Whitmore Bay.

The funding will not be paid out as a grant, but various costs will be paid by the council's events office.

The costings are based on similar events held last summer.

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 HIRE ASSOCIATION MEMBER

## Benefits of a Vale merger

**W**ELL, what a surprise, political harmony almost breaking out at the Vale Council to save their alleged 'excellent' and 'envied' services.

Councillors' statements – 'Merger could end up with the Vale being fed crumbs from the table' – and 'Vale Council Leader responds to Tory challenge on merger' (The GEM, January 30), are littered with scare stories, some about Cardiff harvesting most of the resources and building houses throughout the Vale.

It sounds something like the rural Vale's past relationship with Barry! Perhaps our elected champions could see a little further than protecting their own political power base, and concentrate more on services to the community and on the consequences for staff working for both authorities.

They may also want to consider the high cost of having more councillors in Wales than Scotland, which has almost twice the population.

And what about the cost of 22 councils, with their highly-paid top managers; the lucrative

exit packages paid to senior staff; duplication of management structures; the little money left available for public services; the highest increases in council tax, the 'inevitable' increase next year, and on their inability to attract regeneration funds.

A common thread to the political storyline relates to council money focused on Cardiff and the number of councillors representing the Vale being outnumbered.

It may have escaped their notice that the population of Cardiff is almost three times that of the Vale – and, presumably, Cardiff residents pay three times as much tax.

We need balance from our civic leadership, with some evidence-based data about service quality and on the potential arising from a merger with Cardiff, particularly the benefit from a major city's imagination and vision.

It is worth contrasting the successful legacy from the past 30 years of our capital city with Wales's largest town, and on the potential impact some of Cardiff's ambition may have on Barry and our dwindling asset base.

**Dennis Harkus,**  
*FocusBARRY member.*

## Williams report: Counting the cost

**A**lthough I support the need to reduce the number of local authorities in Wales, I am concerned about the Welsh Government trying to rush this through.

For a start we do not know exactly how much this will cost and how much savings will be made by reducing the number.

It is important that we have a full debate on this matter and that the public are consulted as service delivery could also be affected by the proposals.

At a time of cuts, we need to know just exactly how these changes would make a difference to our communities.

To me, it does seem

that the Williams report has been put together in a rushed way without any thought on the real impact.

For example, has he really taken into consideration the job losses that are likely to come from this?

We really do not have much choice under the cuts from the Welsh Government, but to see a reduction in the size of our councils. However, we must make sure we get it right!

I would also suggest that we have voting reform implemented before any changes actually take place, so we do not see an unhealthy one-party rule in Wales.

**Coun Richard Bertin**  
*Independent, Vale of Glamorgan Council.*

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## Readers' Letters

**IMPORTANT!** We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

## Opponents right for the wrong reasons about merger 'fudge'

**I**READ the latest edition of The GEM with utter despair. In 2005, Carwyn Jones AM said that "there is an urgent need to reform local authorities in Wales"

In true Welsh Assembly style, that urgent need was turned into action and nearly nine years later, we get the report of the Williams Commission.

Predictably, our councillors, ex-councillors and local authority workers are up in arms over the proposals of the Williams Commission.

They tell us that they are worried about a lack of local democracy, which is a bit rich, as less than 40 per cent of the electorate participated in the last local authority elections in Wales. The figures for town council elections are even lower!

It is even more rich when you consider that pub-

## 'Cardiff merger will be disastrous for the Vale'

**T**HE people of the Vale should be absolutely clear that the Welsh Government wishes to see a 'Greater Cardiff Council'.

This will result in the abolition of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, with the Vale becoming a very small part of the new 'Cardiff region.'

Whether you live in Barry, Penarth, or the rural Vale, this will prove disastrous for Vale residents.

Services will be much poorer, investment non-existent and influence negligible.

This is due to the fact that Cardiff councillors will hugely outnumber Vale councillors and as a result, all the money will be spent in Cardiff.

If you are already unhappy about more housing in the Vale, I can assure you that things will get much worse.

In the event of a merger, I expect to see a considerable increase in residential housing development here in the Vale, in order to take the pressure off Cardiff, where a vast number of new houses is currently planned.

As such, I would like to take this opportunity to ask the Assembly Member for the Vale of Glamorgan, Jane Hutt, whether she is prepared to stand up for the people of the Vale of Glamorgan?

I hope she will make it absolutely clear to her constituents that any merger with Cardiff Council is completely unacceptable, in view of the fact that it will be damaging to Vale residents.

After all, she is a member of the Welsh Government cabinet, and it is time for her to state in public exactly where she stands on this crucial issue.

**Councillor John Thomas,**  
*St Athan ward member and Conservative Group Leader, Vale Council.*

• In the interests of fairness, The GEM invited Jane Hutt AM to respond to Coun Thomas's remarks.

She explained: "The Williams Commission has produced an extensive report, which will now be considered by all those in Welsh public services, as elected representatives, members of staff – and by all those who use our services day to day."

"As the Assembly Member for the Vale of Glamorgan, I will be listening to all those who engage in the debate and discussions, feeding back views as we consider the way forward."

"At a time of continuing austerity and public service cuts, it is vital that we look at all options to safeguard and improve our public services."

lic opinion is consistently ignored by Vale of Glamorgan councillors.

Our councillors also worry that 'well run' councils are being sacrificed, without mentioning the fact that 33 per cent of our local authorities are, or have been, in 'Special Measures'.

They totally ignore the inefficiencies in the present system. Worryingly, they also ignore the unlawful payments made to senior local authority managers and sanctioned by elected councillors.

Of course, the real reason for their ire is the potential loss of cushy roles as the number of councillors reduce. Understandably, the local authority workforce are concerned by job losses, but the private sector has suffered far greater reductions in workforces.

So what is the response of our politicians? Well, Plaid Cymru want a change in the voting system in the hope that that would give them a greater share of councillors.

The Tories? Well, they fear the loss of council seats, so are against the Commission's recommendations.

The politicians of these parties have no interest in the electorate and the (lack) of services that they receive – their only interest is self-preservation.

The response of Labour politicians varies, depending on how vulnerable they feel they are under the Williams proposal.

Strangely enough, our politicians are right about the Williams commission's recommendations, but for the wrong reasons.

Of course, the Williams Commission took its lead from the Welsh Assembly Government and came up with a complete fudge. Not only did Williams come to the wrong conclusions, he then added insult to injury by suggesting that his proposed mergers should be undertaken with all possible speed – and be completed within five years!

In Wales and the UK, we have local administration, not local government. Most commentators who understand this are of the view that we in Wales need between five and seven local authorities.

There are those who feel that one would be enough.

Only in the public sector could the clarification of Carwyn Jones in 2005 possibly become reality in 2020 – and they call that speedy implementation!

**John Turner, Rhooose Point.**

## Looking long term to a greener future

**A**GREENER future, solar farming, is rolling out throughout greenfield sites in the Vale.

From St Hilary, to Sutton Mawr via West Aberthaw, the only clear prerequisite is that farm fields need to be in close proximity to National Grid infrastructure.

I am all for reducing carbon emissions by using renewable energy, but type and location are paramount.

We live in Wales, a truly wet country. Surely, better use of hydro and tidal power would make common sense?

Solar panels produce electricity, but farmland absorbs carbon dioxide

during the growing season. Farmland can also produce bio-fuels.

With a new Local Development Plan in the pipeline, surely the onus should be on preserving the green, green grass of home – rather than turfing it up for energy production?

With so many new housing developments in the pipeline, how about legislation ensuring solar and geo-thermal technologies are insisted upon, as an inherent part of any housing development?

Thinking long-term, as opposed to temporary (solar farming has a 25-year lifespan) would enable a much greener future for all.

**Josie Evans,**  
*West Aberthaw.*

## BUS REVIEW GOOD NEWS

**L**AST week, an article in The GEM reported a statement from the Welsh Government Transport Minister committing to a review of local bus services.

This is excellent news and I pay tribute to the thousands of people across Barry and Vale that have campaigned for this since last April.

Having organised several public meetings on the issue, all of which were packed out with concerned bus users, I am pleased that the Minister has listened and look forward to the outcome of the review.

Now that we are at long last making progress, we need to maintain the momentum and public pressure. The petition is still available on our web site, which can be added to the 2,500+ signatures that have been collected on hard copy.

This action is vital in

that negotiations between bus companies and the Welsh Government are still ongoing over the money paid for concessionary bus passes.

Having spoken to the bus companies, this still provides a threat to local services. The reduced payments could damage the limited services we now receive.

This announcement should be made over the next few weeks, and I am concerned that it will damage local services further before the Minister concludes her review.

It is also important to ensure that the rarely-used Cardiff Airport T9 service is accounted for in any future planning of bus services in the Vale.

This undermined local bus services and there is no question that the £750K a year subsidy for that route could be better used elsewhere in Barry and the rural Vale.

**Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale of Glamorgan.**

## 'Build at all costs' response disturbing

**T**HE Welsh Government planning department's suggestion that an evidence-based approach to the Vale of Glamorgan Local Development Plan should be ignored, is both surprising and odd.

Based on population increases and smaller household sizes (ie that fewer people will live in each house), the LDP recommends 9,950 houses be built between 2011 and 2026.

However, last year I showed that 2011 census figures were well below the anticipated population growth in the Vale of Glamorgan and that household sizes were larger than expected.

The Welsh Government's planning

department accept that these statistics show we require 2,800 fewer houses, but then argue that Welsh Government population estimates should be ignored and the houses built regardless.

Such a response is quite disturbing, reflecting a 'build at all costs' attitude, rather than engaging with facts and recognising that the need for housing in the Vale has been over-stated.

Housing should be built on brown-field sites and our LDP should reflect real local need.

Of course, if we are forced to merge with Cardiff Council, then a whole new LDP will be needed, with far greater pressures on the roads and green fields around Barry and rural Vale.

**Coun Ian Johnson,**  
*Barry.*

*(Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales)*

## HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL FEBRUARY 13)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
06 Thur	10.52	8.9	23.14	8.4
07 Fri	11.42	8.2		
08 Sat	00.12	7.8	12.52	7.7
09 Sun	01.24	7.5	14.11	7.4
10 Mon	02.49	7.5	15.25	7.6
11 Tues	03.57	7.9	16.23	8.1
12 Wed	04.44	8.4	17.15	8.5
13 Thur	05.35	8.9	17.54	8.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.



# 'If the Vale and Cardiff councils merge, Barry will need more powers' claims local councillor

**IF the Vale and Cardiff Councils are merged, local town and community councils will need to have more powers, insisted a Barry councillor.**

The recommendation of the Williams Commission to amalgamate the two councils has sparked a furious debate over the last two weeks.

Most of the sound and fury has surrounded the

merits – or otherwise – of what has been characterised as a Cardiff 'take-over'.

But Coun Ian Johnson, who represents the centre of Barry, says the configuration of local government bodies further down the chain will have to be changed.

He argues they provide vital "expertise and oversight" that might be missing from a Greater Cardiff council.

Coun Johnson said: "If the Welsh Government decides to merge the Vale

## Report by TIM CHAPMAN

with Cardiff Council then there would have to be a whole new purpose to town and community councils in the Vale.

"Cardiff has no understanding of the needs of the Vale's rural communities and, as the capital city, has its own priorities for economic development, which may not best serve the needs of Barry."

"In those circumstances we would have to make sure that our towns and villages here in the Vale don't lose out."

"Across Wales, we must make sure that we get the most efficient public services."

"Sometimes that means an all-Wales level, sometimes at a regional level, where co-operation is helpful and sometimes at a town and community level."

"It's important that we don't wastefully duplicate services but crucial that local voices are heard."

"If the council headquarters moves to Cardiff, there would still need to be local oversight and expertise in Barry

and the Vale if that is the best way to serve the community."

Coun Johnson said it could mean new powers being given to town and community councils – and cited park, leisure facilities and promotion of tourism as examples.

"These councils could also take on a greater role in other areas, such as education, where they already nominate school governors, or just to make sure that service delivery, such as bin collection or road repairs, is at the right level."

"It's important that the local community has a strong voice in the planning process."

"People in Barry should keep a strong say over how the town is run."

### AMBITION

Last week in The GEM some Vale councillors pointed out that in a new authority Cardiff councillors would outnumber them, and this was likely to lead to a bias toward the capital.

Dennis Harkus of FocusBARRY told The GEM that an injection of Cardiff's ambition might "prove positive" for the Vale.

"A common thread to the political storyline relates to council money focused on Cardiff and the number of councillors representing the Vale being outnumbered."

"It may have escaped their notice that the population of Cardiff is almost three times that of the Vale and, presumably, Cardiff residents pay three times as much tax."

"We need balance from our civic leadership with some evidence-based data about service quality and on the potential arising from a merger with Cardiff, particularly the benefit from a major city's imagination and vision."

"It is worth contrasting the successful legacy from the past 30 years of our capital city with Wales' largest town, and on the potential impact some of Cardiff's ambition may have on Barry and our dwindling asset base."

(For Mr Harkus's full comments, see readers' letters page 2).

## 'The land adjacent to Clive Road must be kept tidy' VALE COUNCIL WARNS

**RIGHT:** A visitor to the Island has said he was disappointed by the amount of litter on the other side of the railings from Clive Road – the Vale Council says it will remind the owners of the land that it must be kept clear.



**A Cardiff man who visits relatives on Barry Island contacted The GEM to say he was disappointed to see the litter on the other side of the railings on Clive Road.**

He said he wondered why the environmental

health department had not stepped in. The Island was a special place which should be kept tidy.

The GEM passed the comments on to the Vale Council, and Clifford Parish, the operational manager for waste management and cleansing, explained that the

council was not responsible for clearing land not belonging to it.

Mr Parish said tax payers shouldn't have to foot refuse bills relating to private land.

He explained: "The legal duty clearly falls on the owners of the land, which we believe to be Associated British Ports."

Mr Parish said he would be writing to ABP to remind them that land be kept clear of rubbish.

He pointed out that Litter Abatement Orders can be issued by courts in instances where land is not kept clear of litter and refuse.

## Vale councillor's Rhooose surgery

**COUN Philip Clarke, who represents the Rhooose ward on the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council as an independent, is holding a surgery this Saturday (February 8) at 10am, in Stewart Road, Rhooose.**

## RNLI volunteer on a survival course



Volunteer Howard Metcalfe.

**NEW volunteer crew member at Barry Dock RNLI lifeboat station, Howard Metcalfe from Barry, recently travelled to the RNLI College in Poole, Dorset, to complete the RNLI charity's trainee crew course funded by the Lloyds Register Foundation.**

Training took place in the sea survival centre at the RNLI College in Poole, which includes a wave tank and a fire-fighting simulator, allowing trainees to experience first-hand some of the scenarios they may encounter at sea as lifeboat crew.

Howard said: "The training was world class. Although it was physically and emotionally challenging, it was well worth it."

"One thing that struck me was how terrifying it must be to be in the sea waiting for the RNLI lifeboat to rescue you."

"I will remember that when I am putting my training into practice and saving lives at sea."

RNLI spokesperson Coxswain Hugh Davies said: "The support given by the Lloyd's Register Foundation is hugely important to the RNLI."

"We are extremely grateful that it has chosen to fund sea survival training, which teaches vital core skills to our volunteer crew."

## New school to open in September

**DUE to the demand for pupil places at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg, a new purpose-built school, is being constructed adjacent to the existing facility in Barry, with Welsh Government funding of £1,200,000.**

The new school will be constructed over 50 weeks. Work on site started in November and a turf cutting event was held on Thursday,

January 23 to mark the occasion.

It was attended by Jane Hutt AM; the Leader of the Council, Coun Neil Moore; Coun Elmore; ISG director Jon James; Menna Roberts, deputy headteacher; Dylan Roberts, headteacher and members of the project team.

The new school will be completed in time for the start of the new school term in September 2014.

## Charity races raised £955

**THE Mayor of the Vale's recent charity Night at the Races raised £955 for the National Coastwatch at Nell's Point, Barry Island.**

Terry Ewington, manager station, stated: "We are so very grateful to the Mayor for her continued support of our charity. She has worked tirelessly throughout the year representing her three nominated charities

and the success of the Race Night is an example of her determination to raise as much money as possible for us and the other two charities."

"A big 'thank you' from all the crew at NCI Nell's Point."

The Mayor has thanked the following companies for their support – Cardiff and Vale Natural Burial Ground; Topstak Chimney Specialist Limited; Marco's Café, Barry Island.

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Hot and spicy chicken with turmeric, cumin, coriander and green chilies

Korairani (Chicken or Lamb) £6.90

Cooked with spinach, minced lamb and garnished with garlic, with boiled egg

South Indian Mustard Chilli Chicken (Hot) £5.90

Barbecued pieces of chicken with fresh garlic, mustard, chilli sauce served with crisp red chilies

Chicken or Lamb Goan.....£5.90

Tandoori baked chicken tikka in a blend of exotic spices and fresh chilies

Chicken or Lamb Chilli Massala.....£5.90

Boneless chicken with fresh ginger a touch of garlic and green chilli

Sabzee Gosh.....£5.90

Lamb cooked with vegetables in a thick spicy bhuna sauce

Achari Murg.....£5.90

Chicken cooked with mix pickle in a thick sauce

Murghi Massala.....£5.90

Chicken cooked with mince meat in a thick rich sauce

Saag Gosh.....£5.90

Chicken Rhan.....£5.90

Rich with herbs & spices in a thick sauce with grilled tomato

Madhu Murg.....£5.90

Mild curry cooked with honey

Curry Pathila (medium or hot).....£5.90

Strips of chicken with very special herbs & spices including coriander, mint, garlic & yoghurt in a rich tangy sauce.

South Indian Lal Mas (Lamb).....£5.95

Fairly hot with chopped green chillies

### SELECTION OF NEW DISHES

Chicken Tikka.....£5.95

Anarkali.....£5.95

Sweet and hot Naga Chilli Masala.....£5.95

Chicken tikka with Mr Naga and chilli sauce madras hot

Bombay Bahar.....£6.20

Lamb tikka, chicken tikka with potato, garlic and chilli sauce (fairly hot)

Bombay Karela.....£6.20

Chicken tikka, lamb tikka, green beans, pepper and green chilli (Madras hot)

Spicy Chicken Tikka (Starter).....£2.90

Spicy Chicken Tikka.....£5.90

Special Biryani.....£7.50

Papadam Special Biryani.....£7.50

Paneer Pasanda.....£5.00

Papadam Special Kurma.....£5.90

Shagorana Bhuna.....£6.20

Shatkor Chicken or Lamb.....£5.90

Famous Bangladeshi taste of citrus flavoured medium dish

Peri Peri Chicken.....£5.90

Chicken and Lamb cooked with special peri peri sauce

Butter Chicken Supreme.....£5.90

Boneless chicken cooked with spices, herbs and butter with special sauce

King Prawn Korahi (medium spiced).....£8.50

Tandoori King Prawn Massala (medium spiced)£8.50

Tandoori baked king prawn simmered in oriental soices and tomatoes

**New menu launching soon!**

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## 'WHAT OF THE BUS SHELTER?'

**HAS anyone any idea when the brand new bus shelter can be used on Port Road, opposite Goleg-y-Coed estate?**

We still have to wait in the open on eight slab stones on the verge 200 metres from the new bus stop.

Apparently bus drivers consider the new bus stop on a blind bend too dangerous even with a state-of-the-art pull-in provided.

Who sited the stop in the first place? If that is the case, what a waste of our money yet again by Barry planners.  
**ME Clemett, Barry.**



## Remembering when you dialled 'O' for operator...

THE speaker at last week's Barry Men's Forum, Mrs Pamela Robson gave a fascinating talk about the developments that had been made in telephonic communications.

She began with a short history of the telephone service, invented by Alexander Bell in 1874, and noted the head of the GPO at the time as commenting: "We do not need telephones in Britain, as we have messenger boys".

There was much laughter when she read out the early instructions on how to operate the dial phones which were introduced in the 1930s, and how subscribers were required to answer and speak into the phone.

Pamela recalled how she applied for a job as a telephone operator when she left school in 1960, and related the services available at that time, and the changes that have taken place since.

She was soon working at the switchboard, eight hours a day, and in those days unless it was a local call, you had to dial zero to get through to the local operator. They would pass you on through

numerous different exchanges, gradually getting closer to the town you were calling, where the operator there could dial the number requested.

After three minutes, the 'pips' would sound, and the operator would break in, and ask whether the caller required a further three minutes. If the caller did not agree immediately they were cut off.

Although 'STD subscriber caller' was commenced in 1958, with the Queen calling the Provost of Edinburgh, it was not until 1974 that the service was universal in the country, and Pamela (like hundreds of other operators) were no longer necessary.

The Barry Men's Forum meets every Thursday morning at 10.15am until noon at the new Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall in Aberystwyth Crescent.

On Thursday, February 13, the speaker will be Mr David Ephraim, whose talk is entitled 'Italo Balbo'. New members are welcome. For further information, contact the chairman Peter Westcott on 02920 594881.

PMW

## Councillors' ward advice

DYFAN Labour councillors Claire Curtis and Anthony Powell will hold a drop-in advice surgery for residents of Dyfan ward on Saturday, February 8 at Highlight Community Centre, Barry from 11am to 12pm. No appointment necessary.



LEFT: The recent angling match raised a grand total of £3,450.

## Anglers rally to raise funds for Ashgrove School

THE Dow Corning Sea Angling Club held a charity open sea fishing match on Cold Knap and Porthkerry to raise money for Ashgrove school in Penarth who teach and support children who suffer from autism.

The match attracted 140 anglers from south Wales and England but the fishing was poor, with only 32 anglers weighing fish.

The winner was Andrew Hutchins with a total weight of 1.92kgs; second was Lee Byrne with 1.3kgs; and third Wayne Saunders with 1.1 kgs. Andrew and Lee sportingly put £70 of their pool money back into the charity.

A presentation and raffle was held at the Ship Hotel who kindly give us the room free of charge. £2,700 was raised and Dow Corning added £750.

A big thank you to all

those who helped with the running of the event, donated prizes, fished and bought raffle tickets.

Those who donated prizes were: LME UK (£300); Dave Bobbett of Anchorman Charters (£200); Seaview Lads (£100); Rims Motors (£50); Cape DBI (Kindle Fire); SHS Scaffolding (portable DVD); Forklift Training Services; The Cherry Orchard; Tynewydd Inn; Full Throttle Motorcycles; Zulu Engineering; Master Fryer; Londis; Skomer Road; Harry Asprou; Barry Angling; Holton Road Angling; Ewenny Angling; Bob's Tackle; Andrew-Leeda UK; Reel Bearings Ltd; Joe Arch; Gerald John; Steve Rees; Tony Gwyther; Colin Sjodin; Bob Radman; lead heads, Jim Morgan, Steve Lawrence (Welsh shirt).

Phil and Jim took care of the bookings, Sian and Tess (buffet) and Debbie, Julie and Nadine (raffle tickets).

The event next year will be on Sunday, December 28.

JOHN LITTLE

## St Cyres students visit the Bett show at London's Excel



The pupils pictured at the Bett show at London's Excel.

## BRIGHT FUTURE AT CARDIFF AIRPORT?

WHAT is the future for Cardiff Airport?

Eight years ago, 2.1million passengers flew from Rhose, more than from Bristol. Last year, the figure had dropped below one million – and meanwhile, Bristol airport has been thriving.

Now there is new optimism for the future for Cardiff Airport and Mr John Dell'Armi will be telling members of Penarth Aviation Society why at their next meeting on Friday, February 7.

Mr Dell'Armi is one of a group that has campaigned to keep Cardiff Airport viable as budget

airlines like Bmibaby withdrew.

Now, the Welsh Government has bought the airport for £52million, and two new airlines, CityJet, part of the AirFrance group, and Germanwings, owned by Lufthansa, are opening new routes from Cardiff.

But is it enough? Mr Dell'Armi will explain why he sees this as just the start of many new links with Europe and America.

Penarth Aviation Society meets at 7.45pm for 8pm at the Penarth Conservative Club. Visitors are welcome. Further information is available from the hon secretary, David Ephraim, on 01446 721321.

YEAR-12 ICT and computing students from St Cyres School sixth form recently visited Excel, the Bett show in London.

Students visited exhibits from hundreds of companies including Apple, Lego, Capita and RM and see the latest technology in action.

The students left the day with lots of free goodies and further developed their knowledge of emerging technology.

Ms Davies, the director of the ICT and business studies faculty, praised the students for their mature attitude throughout the day.

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## RSPCA wants to reunite a trapped kitten with its owner

RSPCA Cymru is trying to trace the owner of a tiny black kitten which became trapped in the engine of a car in Barry.

The kitten, around seven to eight weeks old, had to be rescued by South Wales Fire service after she was discovered on Coldbrook Road East on January 29.

The RSPCA was contacted by the fire service and collected the kitten who, fortunately, was unharmed by her experience.

Inspector Danielle Baber said: "Kittens are curious by nature but luckily, this cheeky creature's adventure didn't result in any harm coming to her."

"She is a very vocal little cat with lots of personality but, sadly, she isn't microchipped or wearing ID, so we have no idea where she came from. If anyone in the Barry area is missing a



**DO YOU KNOW  
THIS KITTEN?**

black kitten, I would urge them to contact us immediately."

Anyone who thinks they know who this kitten belongs to is asked to contact the inspector's information line on 0300 123 8018, where they can leave a message for Inspector Baber. All calls will be treated in confidence.

The RSPCA is only able to investigate instances like this thanks to donations from our supporters. If you would like to help the RSPCA, you can give £3 now by texting HELP to 78866 (text costs £3 plus one standard network rate message).



# £550,000 bridge renovation in Dinas – BUT JOB TO TAKE 14 WEEKS

A bridge in Dinas Powys that links the north and south of the village is to be renovated, at a cost of £550,000, writes **TIM CHAPMAN**.

The bridge is located at the Cardiff Road, Cross Common Road junction and spans the Cadoxton River that flows through the village.

Local councillors have welcomed the news that work will go ahead, but insist their preference is for a new junction on Cardiff Road which would not require a bridge: the river goes under the main road further downstream.

Vale cabinet member for environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis, explained: "The council has been monitoring this bridge for some time.

"The structure was given extra support by the addition of a timber frame in 2005, but recent inspections have made it clear that the current structure is reaching the end of its useful life and



**ABOVE:** Cross Common Road bridge in Dinas Powys, facing downstream and showing the timber frame giving the bridge extra support.

would have to be closed by May this year.

"There have also been concerns that the timber frame has an adverse effect on the river's flow, increasing the chance of local flooding."

The council says the existing bridge deck and parapets will be replaced, but that the original abutments are in good order and can be retained.

Coun Curtis explained: "The bridge is a vital vehicle and pedestrian link for the village.

"I want to ensure it is kept open and I presented a report to cabinet in December. At that time

local councillors expressed concern about the bridge being closed for repair.

"Since then there have been discussions between the council leader, officers and myself with the local Dinas Powys members, and I am pleased to say they agree that the proposed closure of around 14 weeks is a much better option than the prospect of a permanent closure of a failed bridge.

"It is hoped work on the bridge will start in this financial year, at which time a traffic diversion will be in operation during the work, but I will ensure that everything will be done to minimise inconvenience to local road users while this vital work is carried out."

Local Plaid councillor Chris Franks told The GEM: "We welcome the decision to go ahead with the new bridge deck, but remain committed to the future creation of a new junction that will avoid altogether the need to cross the river.

"We hope that the work will be undertaken in as quick a time as possible, to minimise any disruption."

## ANOTHER LOCAL BUSINESS SUCCESS La Cucina just got bigger – as Le Panini relocates!

**RIGHT:** Rachel and Anthony offer a friendly, efficient service.

**L**E PANINI, the sandwich shop and salad bar on Thompson Street has relocated to La Cucina on Holton Road – meaning local people can enjoy top-quality meals or order baguettes and paninis to take away all from the same premises.

The owner of the two businesses, Ferda, explained: "It made sense to run them from the same place.

"We are offering a local delivery service, too.

"People just have to call 01446 722024 and their order will be ready in 15 minutes.

"We can also provide the catering for parties, corporate events or family celebrations such as birth-

days."

Over the last seven years, Ferda has built La Cucina into a Barry institution, and it has become an ideal location for friends to meet up, and for office workers to pop in to collect their sandwiches, or stop for a quick meal.

Ferda explained: "Our aim has always been to provide top-quality meals at reasonable prices."

La Cucina's dishes are home made, too. Whether it's all day breakfasts, soups, warm drinks, 'winter warmers' – such as lasagne, bolognese or chilli and rice – salads, baguettes, paninis or traditional sandwiches, there's something for every palate...

Ferda added: "We offer a personal service in a great atmosphere, and everyone is welcome."



**La Cucina Cafe**

**Le Panini of Thompson St. have now joined La Cucina Cafe at 51, HOLTON ROAD, BARRY.**

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## Nesting sites for dormice!



**PORKHERRY Wildlife Group recently joined the ranger service to place 50 dormouse tubes in areas of woodland suitable for nesting sites.**

Mel Stewart, Vale Council country park ranger, said: "Funding for the dormouse tubes came from a grant from Natural Resources Wales. It is really exciting to think that we might actually find dormice living in our woods."

Porthkerry Wildlife Group meets every two weeks and welcomes total beginners and experts alike.

Contact ranger Mel Stewart on 01446 733589 or email [porthkerry@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:porthkerry@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) for details.

## Through mist and mud on a trek through time...

RAIN was forecast to come in around lunch time and although nine Penarth and District Ramblers, including leader Geraint and his sheepdog, Patch, set off from Penttyrch in dry weather, the surrounding views were enshrined in a low mist.

Crossing green meadows to Creigiau and joining part of the National Cycle Trail behind the gardens of houses, the old railway station was reached, overgrown now, but the platform still visible.

From the disused railway track and a road, they reached Tyn y Coed for morning refreshment, before moving on past old disused quarries and clambering steeply uphill through a muddy pine forest to join Ffordd y Bryniau, or the ridgeway walk, with Penttyrch rising out of the mist below them.

Passing in front of a reservoir they began the climb up onto Garth Hill, where the wind made its presence felt but, thankfully, still no sign of rain.

From the ridge, it was all downhill to Gwaelod y Garth on a series of very slippery muddy tracks before more wet pathways through Garth Wood held the secrets of the industrial age of yesteryear.

The Garth Iron Mine utilised the strength of the working force together with a horse-powered windlass to raise the ore from below the ground, after which it was taken by packhorse down the steep wooded hillsides to the furnaces of the Penttyrch Ironworks.

Later packhorses gave way to a horse-drawn tramway, and a steam engine supplied by the Neath Abbey Ironworks replaced the original horse-drawn windlass, which made life a little easier on the workmen.

Following lunch taken in the wood, the group moved on to the steep-sided ancient woodland of Coed y Bedw, climbing gradually to reach Heol Goch, the main Penttyrch Road.

On February 8, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile hard walk taking in Pen y Fan and the Tommy Jones memorial stone; contact Barrie on 029 2053 0753.

On February 9, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for a 9.5-mile moderate walk to Llangynwyd taking in the deer at Margam Park; contact Janet/John on 01446 418514.

## Barry has missed out on the new funding

by GEM REPORTER

**THE Minister for regeneration, Carl Sargeant AM, has announced £100m of funding for areas of Wales – but Tory politicians say they are disappointed the Vale missed out.**

The funding comes under the 'Vibrant and Viable Places' package, and councils were invited to make bids for it.

The local authorities who will receive funding are Bridgend, Conwy, Flintshire, Isle of Anglesey, Merthyr Tydfil, Neath Port Talbot, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Swansea, Torfaen and Wrexham. A bid from the Vale Council was unsuccessful.

Mr Sargeant explained that the £100m was evidence of how the Welsh Government was supporting people at grass roots level at a time of cuts from the UK Government.

"These worthy projects will make a real difference to their communities and I'm delighted with the quality of the bids received."

"Many of the successful bids focus on the regeneration of town centres, which is about a lot more than filling empty shops. It is about creating a diverse and vibrant town centre with other services such as leisure, health and education at its heart and making the town centre an attractive place to live."

"Increasing housing supply is my number one

priority and these successful bids will build on and complement the excellent regeneration work in evidence across Wales through our Houses into Homes and Social Housing Grant schemes."

Vale MP Alun Cairns claimed it appeared the Vale – and Barry in particular – was subsidising other areas.

"Only two weeks ago Pride in Barry highlighted a shortfall of £17.7 million from the money the Welsh Government received from the sale of land at Barry Waterfront."

"We seem to be subsidising these other areas."

"To announce these generous grants to other areas is a slap in the face to Barry. For too long Barry and the rest of the Vale have been taken for granted."

"The question needs to be asked whether it was the quality of the bid or the Welsh Government not looking at the town's needs."

"The generous spending on other areas also compounds the under-funding received by the Vale. We need a fair funding settlement."

The leader of the Conservatives in Wales, Andrew RT Davies, said: "This announcement is a kick in the teeth for Barry. Having lost its regeneration status, much of the good work done in recent years to restore the area is now in danger of unravelling."

## Pupils greet AM on St Dwynwen's Day

Headteacher Clare Lewis and year-6 pupils with Jane Hutt and Chris Elmore, at All Saints School.



ON St Dwynwen's Day, the Vale AM, Jane Hutt, visited All Saints Church in Wales School, Barry to meet the new headteacher, Clare Lewis, with Vale cabinet member for children and young people, Coun Chris Elmore, and also met pupils, including year-6 (above).

"It was lovely to visit the school, with pupils taking part in St Dwynwen's Day celebrations, and to congratulate the pupils and staff on their achievements," she commented.

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Applications are invited from local voluntary and not-for-profit organisations seeking financial assistance in 2014/15. Forms are available from Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA. Telephone: (01446) 704920 [info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk)

Your constitution and latest audited accounts must accompany the application. New organisations must submit a business plan/budget in place of audited accounts. All applications complying with the criteria will be considered. The submission of an application does not guarantee that a grant will be awarded.

The Council are unable to consider applications from or on behalf of National Organisations, unless they can demonstrate that their services will benefit a significant proportion of the local community.

Applications should be returned to the address given below by or before Friday, 7 March 2014

Mr C Lewis  
Town Clerk  
Council Offices  
7 Gladstone Road  
Barry  
CF62 8NA



**BARRY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR TREF Y BARRI**

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Dylid danfon ceisiadau i'r cyfeiriad isod erbyn neu cyn dydd Gwener, 7 Mawrth 2014

Mr C Lewis  
Clerc y Dref  
Cyngor Tref Y Barri  
7 Heol Gladstone  
Y Barri  
CF62 8NA

## Consultation into powers at Rhoose Point

**DUE to an increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour at Rhoose Point, the Vale Council is considering introducing byelaws to give the police and some council officers the power to take enforcement action.**

The Vale Council wants to know how local residents feel about the matter through a public consultation.

Coun Gwyn John said: "We have had a lot of discussion with residents at Rhoose Point over the small minority of users who indulge in anti-social behaviour at the site. This consultation will allow the com-

munity to put forward their views regarding the proposals."

The proposed new byelaws would cover, regulate and control activities such as swimming, fishing, metal detecting, overnight parking and camping, fires, unauthorised barbecues and harm to wildlife.

Anti-social behaviour, including consumption of alcohol, excessive noise and willful damage could be managed more effectively, with courts imposing a fine for non-compliance.

You can find out more by calling 01446 700111 or visit [www.vale-ofglamorgan.gov.uk/rhosebyelaws](http://www.vale-ofglamorgan.gov.uk/rhosebyelaws).



# Cooking bus brings healthy lessons to local Primary School



**LEFT:**

*The pupils busy in the cooking bus kitchen.*

WE have had a very exciting week at Jenner Park Primary, as we were lucky enough to have the Health Challenge Wales 'Cooking Bus' at the school.

Pupils were treated to trips to the purpose-built cooking bus kitchen, where they learned all about healthy foods, how to prepare them safely and how to cook them.

All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and came away from the bus with something for their tea, cooked by their own fair hands!

When asked what they thought, Anglina, Cameron and Luke in year-6 said: "WOW! Food on Wheels! We made exciting, healthy, tasty food and would recommend the experience to anyone."

Ellie in year-5 commented: "A lot of effort went into making the cooking lesson fun."

Jake agreed that: "Jane's instructions and techniques were

explained thoroughly so that we were able to practice the skills without hurting ourselves."

Everyone who went echoed the sentiments of Bradley from year-5 when he said: "I loved it and can't wait to do it again!"

Hopefully, parents will have seen a difference at home, with all those children volunteering to help out in the kitchen... well we can hope! DJM

## WORKSHOPS

THE school also took part in two days of healthy eating workshops with Adele Twomey, who is the Community Wellbeing Coach for Barry Communities First.

The Healthy Eating Workshops aim to help children understand what an 'eat well plate' consists of. Children had the opportunity to discuss types of food and how different foods are good for our bodies and create an 'eat well plate'.

Molly in reception, said: "The fruit was delicious."

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**CARDIFF CROWN COURT** report by **AJ SICLUNA**

## ATTACKER AWAITING SEX CHANGE OP Teenager slashed by former Army soldier at Park

**A TEENAGER was repeatedly slashed across his torso and stabbed once by a man wearing a blonde wig, in an attack at a Porthcawl caravan site.**

Cardiff Crown Court heard that 51-year-old Melissa Cae had served with the Royal Regiment of Wales in Northern Ireland, but in 2000, he decided he wanted to live as a woman.

Cae, who was jailed for seven years after pleading guilty to a charge of wounding with intent, was described by Judge Stephen Hopkins QC as a pre-operative transgender.

The judge said the victim had done nothing to provoke what happened and, mercifully, his injuries were not deep.

Prosecutor Jason Howells said that on June 21, the 16-year-old victim was at the Happy Valley Caravan Park, Porthcawl, with his family, and went to the Blue Water Club, where people congregated.

Three weeks before the attack, the youth had seen Cae standing opposite his caravan.

Cae walked into the club wearing a blonde wig, with a man wearing a pink wig.

Later, the youth went to introduce himself to Cae, who became aggressive and began talking about "skinning and eating dogs".

At one point, Cae barged into the youth and five minutes later, pushed him from behind and put his arms around his chest in a bear hug.

It was noticed that Cae's hand went across the youth's chest three or four times. He freed himself and saw that Cae had a knife in his hand.

When the victim saw his injuries, he was shocked. There were four cuts to the torso, and a stab wound.

The victim stated that he had once had the opportunity of being a male model, and becoming a hairdresser, but because of the injuries he had become anxious and did not leave the house alone.

He also said that sometimes there would be a wave of panic if someone came behind him, was not confident, and "struggled to be himself".

In addition, he stated that he was conscious of his scars and had bad dreams and flashbacks and had been referred to a counsellor.

Cae, who was said to have no previous convictions, was arrested in possession of the knife.

Mr Howells said she told the police: "I know what I have done", and answered "no comment" to questions.

Cae's solicitor, Adam Sharpe, said: "Clearly, this was a very serious assault which only took seconds. Cae has not prevaricated and pleaded guilty at the first opportunity."

"This is her first experience of the criminal justice system and the attack was totally out of character."

The trigger, said Mr Sharpe, could have been an earlier verbal altercation.

"She is disgusted at what she did. She was

brought up as a man in a strict Irish family. In 1983, she served as a man in the Royal Regiment of Wales in Northern Ireland and lost three dear friends there. She also worked in a steel plant and as a mechanic."

As a result of the Northern Ireland experience, he said, Cae suffered post traumatic stress disorder.

He added that in 2000, Cae decided to live as a woman, which had a big impact on the family.

Cae, he continued, had battled with physical and mental health problems and later this year, hoped to be operated upon for a full sex change.

Cae, the court heard, had been assessed as a potential suicide risk.

## PACT meetings

**LLANTWIT PACT**, Leisure Centre on February 12 at 7pm.

**LLANDOUGH PACT**, Royal British Legion, Penlan Road, Llandough, on February 17 at 7pm.

**CASTLELAND PACT**, Civic Offices, Holton Road, on February 17 at 7pm.

**COFFEE and chat meeting**, Blue Anchor public house, East Aberthaw near Rhoose on Tuesday, February 25 at 11am.

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## Go purple on Epilepsy Day

**I AM writing to ask your readers to support people with epilepsy, and celebrate the international day of epilepsy awareness.**

Purple Day, on Wednesday, March 26, is now in its sixth year, and has fast become a fantastic way to raise awareness and funds for epilepsy.

Here at Epilepsy Action Cymru, we are encouraging people to 'turn their world purple' by swapping their ordinary suits, uniforms, or work wear for something purple, in return for a donation.

Every year, around 32,000 people are diagnosed with epilepsy, that's 87 every single day. Every penny raised on Purple Day will help us to continue our vital work in supporting the 600,000 people with epilepsy across the UK.

To request a fundraising toolkit, or for more information about other ways to get involved in Purple Day, visit [epilepsy.org.uk/purple](http://epilepsy.org.uk/purple), or call 0113 210 8800.

Readers can find out more about living with epilepsy at our website, [epilepsy.org.uk](http://epilepsy.org.uk).

**MICHAEL WHITE**, Fundraising events officer, Epilepsy Action



## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

# 'These inflation-busting rises are unacceptable'

**L**AST week, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Alun Michael, committed to increase the police precept, billed as part of our council tax, by five per cent – two and a half times the rate of inflation.

The police precept is the extra money the Police Commissioner raises to pay for policing activity through council tax. This is included in every council tax bill, and is set locally every year by the Police and Crime Commissioner – and previously the police authority.

This increase should be added to whatever the Vale cabinet will add to the council tax bills. In all, we are likely to be subject to inflation-busting rises, which is unacceptable.

Under the Localism Act 2011, if the level of council tax in England increases by more than two per cent – which is the current rate of inflation, a local referendum must be held. This makes sure that local people approve the increase.

It is interesting how the threat of a local ballot focuses the mind of councillors!

In Wales, council tax is governed by the Welsh Government, and sadly, as council taxpayers we are not given the same privilege of vetoing an inflation-



**Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers**

tion-busting increase by a vote.

In view of cost of living issues, we need to stand against council tax increases. It is unfair that we are asked to pay more, while others are seeing their bills frozen.

Last year, Cardiff Council froze their council tax payments in line with the commitment they made before the local elections. Here, the Vale Council put up our bills by five per cent – amongst the highest in Wales. I continue to raise the point that our funding settlement is unfair

and cannot continue to be short changed.

The funding settlement being so poor means that we are expected to make the difference up in higher council taxes. Regular readers of my column will know that if we received the same funding as Cardiff alone, we would have an additional £25m a year to spend.

The costs of providing public services in the Vale are no different to that in other parts of Wales.

Teachers earn the same, social workers cost the same; as is the charge to resurface a road or to fill in a pot hole.

Policing is an essential public service and I think that police officers should continue to be rewarded for the exceptional job they do. Having spent some shifts working with local officers, I am more than aware of the difficult and often dangerous work.

To their credit, crime is at record low levels. So why we should see an increase that is two and a half times the rate of inflation is beyond me.

We need to recognise that the increase isn't as a result of their efforts, but of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Please join the fair funding campaign. This is a non-party campaign with a petition that is on my website.

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## The Best of Welsh Paintings

Bonhams specialists will be in the areas of Cowbridge, Penarth, Llanelli Major and surrounding villages of the Vale of Glamorgan to look at Welsh pictures or any other items you maybe thinking of selling at auction.

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Holocaust Memorial Day assembly in the school hall.

## Local children hear how journeys led to genocide

"... on the following day the Jews would be leaving. All the Jews, without exception. Even the children, even the old, even the ill. Our destination? Nobody knew."

*Primo Levi, Holocaust survivor and author*

**ON January 27, Barry Comprehensive School commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day 2014.**

Assemblies were held for years 7 to 10, and were followed by lessons which put the Holocaust into context, and provided students with a sense of why marking this day is so important.

The specific focus of HMD 2014 was 'Journeys'. The assemblies encouraged pupils to think about how journeys themselves became part of genocide, and how the journeys undertaken were often experiences of persecution and terror for so many people.

The boys were also given the opportunity to reflect on their



**Year-11 students Josh, Jay and Josh at Barry Library, with Mrs Zyjewski and Mr Spencer.**

own journeys, the fact that all journeys begin with just one step, and the importance of making those steps positive ones, and so making a positive difference.

Also, three year-11 students, Josh Barnett, Jay Jackson and Josh Woodfin, visited Barry Library with Mrs Zyjewski and Mr Spencer. The purpose was to view the 'Hineni Project'.

This is a collection of individual journeys and photographic portraits of people living in

Britain – from refugees and Holocaust survivors to those who grew up here in Wales and the UK. 'Hineni' offers an extraordinary insight into individuals' lives.

Days like Holocaust Memorial Day are significant because they ensure that we learn from the past. As George Santayana said: "The one who does not remember history is bound to live through it again".

AC

## Local treasures returned to Barry Town Council

**THE Mayor of the Vale recently invited the Mayor of Barry to the town hall to receive a 'Borough of Barry Visitors' Book' which had been found in the basement of the Dock Office.**

The book dated back to 1939, when the Urban District Council of Barry was granted the charter to become a municipal borough.

The inscription on the inside page reads: "Presented to the Barry Corporation by the First



**Mayor of Barry, Councillor Dudley Howe JP, November 9, 1939.**

Also found in the Dock Office was a framed picture consist-

ing of photographs of the civic dignitaries at that time.

Coun Wilkinson said: "I am pleased to be able to present this book and

photographs to the Mayor of Barry so that these items will be stored in their rightful home."

Coun Curtis, the Mayor of Barry, responded: "I would like to thank the Mayor of the Vale for these treasures."

"The signatures in the book start in 1939 and finish in 1961 and give a fascinating insight into the history of Barry during those years."

"I am so pleased they are now in the possession of the town council for safekeeping."

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# Puppy left for dead in river has found loving new home



ABOVE: SAM AND CERI.

THE story of the Lurcher puppy, which The GEM reported was thrown in the river and left for dead, has had a happy ending.

Dogs Trust Bridgend launched an appeal to find the rescued puppy a loving new home. Rehoming offers flooded in for little Ceri, named after Policewoman, PC Ceri Hassall who spotted her in the river which

runs past the police station and managed to rescue her from the water.

"Vets believed Ceri's injuries were consistent with being shot with a pellet gun, before she was thrown into the river, but that can't be confirmed at this stage and a joint investigation into what happened to Ceri has been launched by the RSPCA and South Wales Police," a spokeswoman said.

Friends told Sam Wyles, a practicing vet in Neath, about the puppy.

After hearing about Ceri's horrific ordeal Sam took her husband and two children Oliver (four) and Daniel (two) and six-year-old rescue dog Jake to meet her.

It was "love at first sight" for the family who returned to the centre to collect her this week.

Sam said: "We have been hoping to get a Lurcher puppy for a while, so friends and family had been looking out for the right dog for us. I was so shocked when I read about Ceri's ordeal and I knew that after all she had been through, I was in a position to give her the loving home for life which she deserves."

"It all rested on our Lurcher Jake, as we needed to be sure he got along with Ceri before we took her home. Fortunately, just like the rest of our family, Jake

absolutely adored her as soon as he met her and they were playing together within minutes."

"Ceri is such a special little dog, we are looking forward to getting her home, giving her plenty of TLC and making her part of our family."

"As soon as she settles in, we plan to take her on plenty of adventures, including agility training with Jake."

Beverly Price, Rehoming Centre Manager at Dogs Trust Bridgend commented: "We are delighted that Ceri has found a loving new home so quickly. This little survivor deserves the very best care after her ordeal and she has definitely found her perfect match in Sam, she really couldn't have gone to a better home!"

"Ceri is a lovely girl who will make a fantastic companion to Sam's family and we know that after all she has been through she has finally found her happy ending."

Dogs Trust Bridgend has dogs of all shapes and sizes looking for homes and, when matching dogs with new owners, staff will consider a wide range of homes and circumstances providing that they will fit the requirements of the dog and provide them with a loving lasting home; telephone 01656 725219.

# Mike takes Barry railway group on a nostalgic journey

AT the first monthly meeting of 2014, the chairman of Barry Railway Society, Jeff Morgan, introduced speaker Mike Wilcock from Cowbridge, who gave a video presentation of more than two hours on railways in Wales during the past 20 years – plus other noteworthy events nationally.

It began with a BBC TV news clip of his Guinness Book of Records trip in October 1984, when he travelled 1,387 miles on British Rail in under 24 hours.

This was followed by a visit to the East Lancashire Railway in 1993 for a brief look at driving the *Flying Scotsman*. This had been a special birthday treat for Mike on his 50th birthday, but on the day the loco had failed, so he ended up driving a GWR loco instead!

Next, a visit to the Crewe locomotive depot to watch the arrival of steam and diesels for the special weekend.

This was modern history as the works has now closed and a gathering of more than 50 locomotives will never be seen there again.

The next 10 minutes of video featured the *Duke Of Gloucester* steam loco, starting in the works at Bury in East Lancashire, followed by her run along the south Wales mainline from the Severn Tunnel through Cardiff, Port Talbot and along the coast to Carmarthen, and her return up Stormy Bank at 74 mph.

More than 400 locomotives from Canada, Spain and America have arrived at Newport Docks since 1998 and we watched the unloading of class 66 freight diesels for GBR wonched

from the ship's hold onto the track at the docks. This again was a moment in railway history, as new deliveries are now taken to Liverpool.

Back with steam, and runs through the Vale of Glamorgan with private railtours was the next feature, followed by views from the top of the Altolluso Residential Tower and Jacobs Antique Market in Cardiff.

Mike then took members on another of his record-breaking trips, this time with Virgin Trains and their Pendolino run from Glasgow to London. The special non-stop run of 407 miles was covered in under four hours, and views from the cab and helicopter featured in this clip.

After a short break, the final hour was a video recorded at the Llangollen railways Steam, Steel and Stars event in 2012. Mike had edited three hours of video shot over three days, down to an hour taken from the best vantage points along the line.

The last image of the evening featured all 10 steam locomotives doing a run past in a cavalcade of smoke and steam. A fitting end to the evening and members look forward to more of his videos next year.

Visit the website <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheMichaelWilcock> for a selection of Mike's work.

The next meeting at the Penarth Conservative Club is on Thursday, February 27, with a slide show by John Wilmot on the History of Railways in Denmark.

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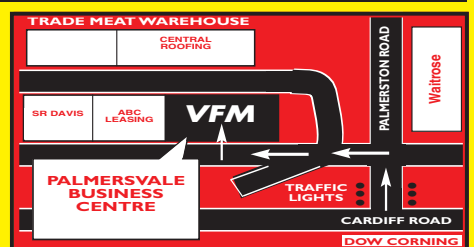


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## Lifeboat launched in high seas for swimmer search

THE Barry Dock RNLI lifeboat was launched during high seas and gale force winds on Saturday (February 1), to search for a swimmer in the Old Harbour area of Barry.

The alarm was raised by fishermen in the evening and the lifeboat was launched around 9.15pm to carry out a search with a Sea King helicopter from RAF Chivenor and coastguard teams from Barry and Penarth.

The volunteer lifeboat crew searched the rough seas for around an hour before being stood down by the Coastguard, who were co-ordinating the search. The Coastguard believed that the swimmer, who was thought to be well equipped, had returned to shore.

They issued an appeal for the swimmer to contact them and let them know that he was safe and well.



The helicopter in action.

## Concern over ambulance response times

**MORE than 1,000 999 calls requesting an urgent ambulance in Cardiff and the Vale did not receive a response within the target time in December.**

According to figures published by the Welsh Assembly Government, 56 per cent of emergency responses to category A (immediately life-threat-

ening) calls arrived at the scene within eight minutes – down from 62.3 per cent in November.

South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, said: "This is extremely troubling at a time when delays in ambulances are already on the agenda."

"The latest figures will do nothing to allay the concerns prompted by recent tragedies in both north and south Wales."

**A Dinas Powys resident was shocked to receive a £62.50 penalty – following a parking stay at the Capital Retail Park near Cardiff City football ground.**

The woman, a pensioner who does not wish to be identified, said she believes the fine is unjust and is refusing to pay it.

The woman told The GEM: "On December 28, I went shopping there at around midday, and also had a coffee at Marks and Spencer."

"In total, I was there

for two hours and 22 minutes.

"On January 11, I received a £60 fine with another £2.50 required for paying by cheque."

"It is very unfair to be hit with that sort of penalty when you are going for a shop."

"At the time, there were long queues into the coffee shop and by the time you've shopped, it can easily take two or three hours."

The normal maximum stay for parking is three hours, but on match days, it is 90 minutes.

On December 28, Cardiff City fought out a

## Report by TIM CHAPMAN.

2 - 2 draw with Sunderland, kicking off at 5.30pm.

The car park is operated by New Generation Parking Management.

Although a closer examination of the parking signs revealed the warning about match day times, the woman argues the fine is excessive, that many people are not aware of match days – and that it is, after all, a retail park where people go to shop.

She has since spoken

to staff in the shops who say they have had numerous complaints from shoppers.

Her friend, who is disabled and frail, also parked there on the same day, and received a similar penalty.

The GEM put three questions to New Generation Parking:

Do New Generation Parking feel £60 is a fair

penalty? The car park is for shoppers going to a retail park so why is there a 90-minute restriction on match days?

Is 90 minutes long enough to have a coffee or a meal, and to do a shop?

At the time of going to press, New Generation Parking had not responded.

**CASTLELAND WARD SURGERY**  
LABOUR Vale and Barry town councillors for Castleland ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake, Les Sword and Karl Kuhnell, will be holding their monthly advice surgery this Saturday, February 8 at the Drop Inn Centre, Castleland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry, from 10.30am until 12pm. No appointment necessary. Call Chris Elmore on 01446 450007 or 07867 506116.

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## Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, BCT and Porthorw areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've

done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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## NEWS FROM THE PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

## Hints and tips that can help...

**FAX machines provided a more rapid means of communication, didn't they? Not always.**

The time-saving was soon absorbed. People realised that a letter need not be posted today; it could be written and faxed the following morning.

The recipient actually got the message no

sooner. The invention simply provided a day's grace for action – no great benefit; no time or effort was actually saved.

Emails have made fax machines virtually obsolete. Computers can save time and money, but more significantly make it possible to do new things – not to mention the sheer convenience. The inter-

net and Skype had a big impact on voice communications.

The cost of computing keeps giving better value for money all the time. As the range of benefits continues to expand so does the variety of skills needed to enjoy them.

People learn in various ways: training courses; reading books; following help files or

getting advice from a friend.

Hints and tips form a vital further step. They save more time and effort in your chosen areas of computing and constitute one of the best investments of your time that you will ever make. To keep learning is the third Golden Rule of using computers.

I am definitely not an adrenalin junkie. I do not want the 'thrill' of finding that I need to rebuild my computer because I have lost all my files. Nor do I want to spend days of my life doing repetitive tasks. I prefer a less stressful time.

Paradoxically, I am content to use a lot of energy to save a little bit. The smart thing about it is that the 'lot' of energy is used once to ensure that I save the 'little bit' many times over.

Not only that, it helps when time is short because the time-saving method is at your fingertips.

The club gives talks dealing with hints and tips. For example see our web site (below) and go to Forum>Archive 2012 and click on '14th October Hints and Tips'.

The presentation was given again at our last

meeting as a 'revision' for established members and enjoyed good interaction with members and three visitors.

The three golden rules were noted (and justified), followed by Howard's Top Ten Tips – those newcomers should learn early on. They apply throughout most areas of computing.

Samples of other tips were mentioned.

One that can be quite handy locks computer instantly by holding down the Windows Key and press L (expressed as Win+L).

The screen instantly reverts to the log-on window. To restore the workspace re-enter your password and, Hey Presto! – you are back where you left off.

In response to demand, we will devote more time looking at hints and tips in future; particularly those relevant to the more widely used applications like Microsoft Word.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, February 11 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, 7.30pm for 8pm. A question and answer forum for all. Visitors always welcome. See penarthcomputerclub.co.uk.

HOWARD DESMOND

## Free holiday market at Cardiff Airport

**CARDIFF AIRPORT is holding a free holiday market on February 16, and families, couples and solo travellers alike are invited to go along to see just how many places they can get to from Wales' national airport.**

The event is being held in partnership with Regal Travel and there'll be more than 40 operators displaying their wares, such as P&O Cruises, Vueling Airlines and Newmarket Holidays. Regal Travel's holiday experts, based across south Wales will be on hand with special offers on the day, to provide free advice and take bookings. Plus, everyone who attends will be offered the chance to enter a free prize draw to win a holiday!

The holiday market will be open from 11am to 4pm; each visitor will be given a 'passport' when they arrive to be stamped by exhibitors and give them entry to the free prize draw for a chance to win a fantastic break with Red Sea Holidays.

The all-inclusive holiday is for two people to the Siva Sharm Resort and Spa, which is a great example of the year round sunshine destinations available from Cardiff.

Real Radio breakfast show presenters Jagger and Woody will be at the holiday market, helping to get everyone in the holiday mood, and the Real Patrol will be giving away goodies for everyone to enjoy.

Other exhibitors include Visit Wales and Penderyn Welsh Whiskey as well as the airport's executive lounge and Nuance (the tax and duty free shop) with a selection of goods that can be bought on the day. Family entertainment will also be provided in partnership with local charity, Ty Hafan.

For those on a travel research mission, visitors can also attend seminars from Red Sea Holidays, Travel

Indochina, Travelsphere, Omega Holidays, APT Touring and Scenic Tours to find out more about the specific destinations they offer.

The holiday market follows the recent addition of new flights to Chambéry, Geneva, Grenoble and Lyon as well as the launch of new airlines including CityJet and Germanwings plus Caribbean and Mediterranean fly cruises.

Visitors will also be able to see firsthand some of the improvements going on at the terminal as part of the works currently in progress, due to be completed by summer 2014.

"We are very excited to host the holiday market for the first time at the airport this year with Regal Travel having held successful events for many years now."

"The new destinations and schedules available mean Cardiff Airport now offers literally something for everyone and the holiday market will be a great way for travellers to get some inspiration or more detail on destinations they already have in mind for their 2014 holiday plans", said airport chief executive, Jon Horne.

"Our passengers want more routes so that they have more options to fly from Cardiff, and this remains our focus," he added.

"After two successful years of holiday markets in Bridgend, we thought it was time to share our expertise with a wider audience, this time with the support of Cardiff Airport, and a wide variety of operators and airlines. We will provide potential travellers with varied opportunities and exclusive offers for their holidays in 2014", said Helen Tustin, general manager of Regal Travel.

The holiday market will be hosted in the Cardiff Airport check-in hall. To register attendance and claim free parking, call, text or email 07436535640 or bridgend@regaltravel.co.uk

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## Welsh memorial service for Mair

A memorial service is to take place for Mrs Mair Reed on Friday, February 14 at 2pm in St Mary's Church, Monkash.

Mrs Reed formerly lived at New Mill Farm, Monkash, but in recent years had lived at Bussiere Boffy in France.

She is remembered by many people in the Vale as a renowned dairy farmer, and with her husband, Dennis, milked up to 100 cows twice a day before moving to farm in France.

She is also affectionately remembered for her warm welcome at New Mill Farm Tea Room.

Mrs Reed passed away peacefully on January 5 and cremation took place in France.

The memorial service at St Mary's is an opportunity for family and friends to pay their respects in Wales.

The family have said flowers are not necessary, but any donations in Mair's memory should be given to the Ed Evans Foundation, c/o Tynycaeu Farm, Marcross, CF71 1ZG. (All enquiries to 01446 774007).



## NEW GROUP'S AIM IS CULTURAL TIES



Mr Muglavai and Mr Ambula with the AM.

Organisers of a new group, 'The Rising Stars' in Barry, Mr Muglavai and Mr Ambula – met Jane Hutt AM last week to tell her of their aims to develop cultural opportunities for the whole community to enjoy in

Barry and to support a charity in Kenya.

The Vale AM welcomed the initiative and said she would support an event in the library to publicise their aims.

## Prepare your Nest...

NEST, the Welsh Government scheme, is urging householders across the Vale who find it hard to heat their homes, to contact them.

Outreach workers from the Nest team will be on hand to provide support and answer questions at many events during Big Energy Saving Week, including:

Nest offers home improvements at no cost to applicants who own or privately rent their home, live in a property that is very energy inefficient and receive a means tested state benefit.

Following a home visit to check eligibility, a Nest assessor will recommend a tailored package of improvements to help make the property warmer and save money on energy bills. These may include a new central heating boiler, loft insulation, cavity wall or solid wall insulation, or renewable energy technologies.

The Nest scheme, which is managed by British Gas, also supports applicants through the process with advice via a freephone number on saving energy, money management, as well as making sure they are on the best fuel tariff, and whether they're entitled to any benefits to boost their income.

Lee Parry, head of Nest, said, "It is important to stay warm all year round. A lot of people who are struggling to heat their homes may not even realise the difference that making small changes can make, for example, just insulating a loft could save up to £145 a year on heating bills."

If you are on a means-tested benefit, and your home is hard to heat, contact Nest on Freephone 0800 808 2244, to see if you are eligible for a home energy improvement package, or visit [www.nestwales.org.uk](http://www.nestwales.org.uk) for more information.

## DOG OF THE WEEK Sparky little Ellie looking for Mr (or Mrs) Right!

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone 01656 725219).

ELLIE is a two-year-old Jack Russell Terrier, who is a cute little soul – but sparky with it!

She is a complex little terrier, and we are looking for an owner with experience of training dogs to keep her on the right track.

She is very bright, and keen to learn, so in the right hands she will make a super little dog.

She would suit a home where there are already some resident dogs, where she will be kept active, and improve her manners and social skills around other dogs.

She is fine to be left for a few hours, is house-trained, and can live with children of 8 plus.

She would like her new owners to visit her a few times at the centre, before taking her home – and we will be on hand to help settle her in when she leaves us for a happy new home!

If you can offer Ellie a home, please call us on 01656 725219, or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12 – 4pm, every day except Monday. If Ellie's not the one for you, we have other dogs just waiting to find a happy new home.

LINDA FEAGAN  
(Supporter Relations Officer  
Dogs Trust Bridgend)



## 'I'm Shelley, and all I want is a chin tickle!'

Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012  
Email: [bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk](mailto:bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk)

"I AM Shelley, I was admitted to the Cats Protection Centre in Bryncethin after I was found lost and alone.

"A kindly lady took me in but was unable to keep me, as I didn't get on with her cat. I am a quiet cat that loves a chin tickle. Can you offer me a new home?"

Please contact Molly, the deputy manager, at Cats Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9UJ, telephone 01656 726 621 or email [bridgend@cats.org.uk](mailto:bridgend@cats.org.uk).



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## Time to recycle under the sink!

**I**T is that time of year when we think about giving our homes a good old spring clean! Keith Brangham certainly will be, and will make sure that all the empty cleaning products are recycled in

his weekly collection.

Coun Rob Curtis explains: "When you think about cleaning products you may have stored away under the sink, you will be surprised what you can recycle – from bleach bottles, to aerosol air fresheners, furniture polish, to plastic cleaning products for non-abrasives, window cleaning

products, the list goes on and on."

Simply rinse the containers out (if you can do so safely), or in the case of aerosols, ensure they are completely empty and place them in your green recycling box or blue co-mingled recycling bag every week.



## PITFALLS OF HOUSING - NO TENANCY AGREEMENT?

**N**EWBOLD solicitors are increasingly coming across many landlords who feel that providing their tenant with a tenancy agreement is unnecessary – especially when they are renting to friends and family.

Catherine Hartland from Newbolds has noticed a trend, in mainly first time landlords, who are not entering into formal agreements with their tenants and this can spell disaster for landlords.

Catherine explains: "A tenancy agreement is a record of what's been agreed between the landlord and tenant. It shows when the tenancy started and, importantly, how much rent is to be paid.

"Without this basic information, it can be very difficult to obtain a court order, which you need to obtain possession of your property from the tenant.

"Any deposit paid by the tenant must be registered with a deposit protection scheme. Many schemes will not register a deposit without a tenancy agreement.

### MOST PROBLEMATIC

"Housing law changes so rapidly, it is important to regularly update tenancy agreements in order to ensure you can recover your properties."

Catherine continues: "Tenancies involving family and friends are often the most problematic. Landlords must remember when letting a property, you are running a small business.

"By ensuring a tenancy agreement is in place you are letting more professionally and can prevent problems from occurring further down the line."

Newbolds can draft tenancy agreements from as little as £75 plus VAT.

Why not visit Newbold's free no obligation legal surgery every Tuesday in the Barry office between 5-6pm for practical and straight talking advice.

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## Creating the perfect orangery IT'S ALL IN THE DESIGN...

**W**HEN it comes to adding flexible living space to your home, there can be little doubt that an orangery truly offers the wow factor.

Today's orangeries come in a multitude of options. From the sleek 'grand design' of modern aluminium, to hassle-free PVC-U or the timeless looks of timber, there is something to suit every home.

However, aesthetics aren't the only consideration. To build a room that you will love all year round, technical design is crucial.

At Securahome, our experts take the time to discover exactly how you will use your orangery, before creating a 3D design to help bring your vision to life.

To cut your carbon footprint and ensure that your new orangery is as comfortable at Christmas as it is at Easter, demands the highest possible thermal efficiency.

At Securahome we use only the latest ultra-efficient glass in our orangeries; then we build in insulated floors, ceilings and walls to make the room as thermally efficient as possible with today's building technology.

When it comes to the roof, we can build slate or tiled roofs, add

in a lantern or skylights, or create a full glass roof for a spectacular view of the stars.

To make sure that view stays uninterrupted, we can even add in self-cleaning glass.

From the initial design, through to planning to the building, electric, plumbing and finishing, Securahomeproject manages every aspect to ensure the process is as relaxing and comfortable as the orangery itself.

To create a dream living space designed around your lifestyle, call Securahome on 0500 212224.



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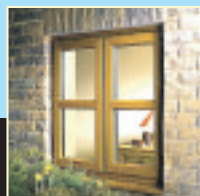
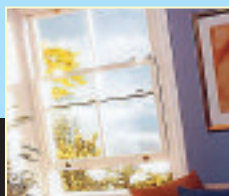
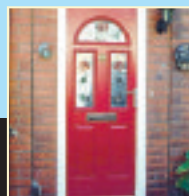


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# In Business Update

## HYPNOTHERAPY CAN REALLY HELP YOU WHEN 'THINGS GET UNDER YOUR SKIN'

**I**t is often said that our skin is a mirror image of our internal self.

An imbalance within the nervous system may

often be reflected in our skin. It can be a signal of a reaction to a trigger and, although treating the symptom may be effective, it is important to address the trigger as

well. This is why hypnosis for skin conditions can be productive.

These types of condition can have distressing effects on self esteem and confidence, even resulting in avoiding social interaction.

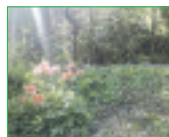
If you are prepared to work towards change, Solution Focused Hypnotherapy can help tackle confidence and anxiety issues which can exacerbate symptoms and create a vicious circle.

If your medical practitioner confirms there is no physiological basis

for your condition, and you would like to discuss a free initial consultation, contact Sue

Pitman on 07795 964066 or

www.cardiffhypnotherapy.co.uk.



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The Business Centre, Barry.  
Wellfield Osteopathic Clinic, Cardiff.  
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## Keep your bike moving this winter

**T**HIS winter, the weather is being particularly tough on cyclists, with not many of the crisp, dry and sunny days we normally get.

It's all been about the rain, and bikes and water don't really get on – it gets everywhere, especially in critical parts such as chains, bearings and cables, causing havoc.

If you've noticed your bike is not riding as well as you remember, then why not treat it to a mid-winter service and keep it running sweetly towards spring? A mid-winter service starts at just £30 and for multiple bikes there's a discount.

Contact VCS for further information.



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Ian has experience in animal psychology and pet care and has previous experience of working in kennels.

The service is available anywhere in the Vale of Glamorgan, with customers in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major, Barry, Omore, Bridgend, Cardiff and further afield. Ian also offers pet-sitting for cats.

Telephone 'I will walk your dog' on 07967 562392 or visit [www.iwillwalkyourdog.com](http://www.iwillwalkyourdog.com)

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## Assembly support for small businesses

**T**HE Small Business Rate Relief Scheme will be extended in Wales until March 2015, First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM announced on Monday, February 3.

He told the Council for Economic Renewal in Cardiff that the extension of the scheme was the latest in a number of business rates measures that would help businesses in Wales.

"We have shown time and again that we are a Government that supports business. Extending the small business rate relief scheme will support small firms across Wales with many paying no rates at all.

"This is in addition to other targeted business rate schemes that we have established to boost businesses across Wales and encourage growth," he said.

## 'Control of Horses Bill welcome, but more action needed' – says RSPCA

RSPCA Cymru has welcomed the Control of Horses (Wales) Bill which received Royal Assent on Monday.

The new law will equip local authorities with additional powers to tackle fly-grazing and abandonment problems which can have severe consequences for animal welfare and community safety, it stated.

The charity "firmly believes this is a positive step forward but does not provide all the answers to Wales' equine crisis, the scale of which was highlighted in the Equine Welfare Indicators Report, launched in November 2013".

Around 3,000 animals across the nation are still thought to be at risk with issues of traceability, identification, irresponsible ownership, tethering and the regulation of sanctuaries all needing continued action from

Wales' decision-makers.

In response to an RSPCA Cymru campaign last year, the Welsh public sent over 1,600 letters to Assembly Members urging them to vote for the Bill, but also play their role in ensuring equine issues remain on the political agenda in Wales.

RSPCA national director for Wales and lead on equine issues, Steve Carter, commented: "We have been very pleased to work closely with the Welsh Government and Assembly Members during this Bill's legislative journey and are delighted

that it has finally become law.

"Moving forward, it is hoped local authorities across Wales will be in a position to use their enhanced powers to tackle fly-grazing and abandonment, but with resources remaining an issue for many councils across Wales, we would encourage the Welsh Government to consider this when assessing the success of the new legislation.

"As the battle to tackle Wales' horse crisis continues, it is essential equine welfare remains high up the Welsh Government's agenda."

## Rescuer thanked

ON January 27 last I had a close encounter with a pavement near to my home in Langlands Road, Barry. A very kind man came along, pulled me up, and brought me safely back home. I would like to say a very big thank you to him for all his help. (Name and address supplied).



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# RAFFLE RAISES £75,000 FOR TY HAFAN CHARITY



Andy Humphries (on right) with Ty Hafan chairman, Mervyn Ham.

## 'Jobless total shows economic plan working' VALE MP CLAIMS

MP Alun Cairns has welcomed latest jobless figures issued for the Vale of Glamorgan.

"The latest figures published by the Office for National Statistics this week show that the number of claimants in the Vale is down to 1,382, a rate of 3.9 per cent.

"This represents a 27 per cent fall since May 2010. This is the third highest reduction in Wales," he said.

"This is great news for the Vale and the country

as a whole. This is really positive for us locally and does show that although the economic climate is still tough there is cause for gentle optimism.

"This, together with the IMF upgrading of the UK's economic growth forecast, clearly shows the UK Government's decision to tackle the budget deficit is working," the MP claimed.

"Clearly more needs to be done, but I strongly believe that we are on the right track with more people working now than ever before," he added.

TY HAFAN supporters from across Wales have helped raise an incredible £75,000 for the charity by taking part in the organisation's Christmas raffle.

Andy Humphries, a grandfather of a child supported by Ty Hafan, was thrilled to pick the charity's raffle winners at the hospice.

His grandson, two-year-old Junior Bird, suffers from Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy, which means he needs 24-hour ventilation and specialist round-the-clock care at the hospice.

Andy said: "It's amazing to see how many people support Ty Hafan and I was really pleased to help out with the draw.

"All the staff have been wonderful with Junior, and we can't thank Ty Hafan enough for everything they've done for us."

Grandmother Janet Griffiths, of Caerphilly, was delighted to receive a telephone call telling her she had won the raffle's top prize of £3,000.

"I was really shocked to find out I'd won but I'm so pleased," she

said. "I think I'll be spending my winnings on a nice holiday. It's fantastic that the raffle has raised so much for Ty Hafan and I'll be telling all my friends about it."

Ty Hafan's chairman, Mervyn Ham, who also attended the draw, said: "I'm delighted that the festive fun raffle raised £75,000 for Ty Hafan.

"The success of the raffle is heavily reliant on our wonderful volunteers who help with the administration and smooth running of the draw.

"My thanks to them and, of course, the great Welsh public."

In addition to running two raffles a year, Ty Hafan also runs the largest hospice lottery in the UK.

The income the lottery generates makes a significant contribution towards providing its services to hundreds of life-limited children, young people and their families from across Wales.

If you would like to support Ty Hafan and be in with a chance of winning up to £12,000 in the weekly lottery, please visit [www.lottery.tyhafan.org](http://www.lottery.tyhafan.org).



Junior Bird with Ty Hafan ambassador Leigh Halfpenny.



Raffle winner Janet Griffiths.

## Minxie and Sasha Two pals are sadly missed



ABOVE: Sasha and Minxie,

I HAVE been following the correspondence concerning the oldest cat in the Vale, and would like to let GEM readers know about my two cats.

Sadly, I had to have my cat, Minxie, put to sleep recently. Now Minxie was 'only' nine years old, but I believe that her early death was because she was pining for her friend, Sasha.

Sasha, a silver scissor back tabby, died last February, having lived to the remarkable age of 26. Minxie, a nine-year-old black and white cat, never got over it and pined for her lifelong friend all last year.

Now they are together, buried side by side, and they are so sadly missed. In the past, I have raised money for Marie

Curie by making and selling cupcakes. The charity is called 'Cwtch Charity Cupcakes'.

Now that Sasha and Minxie have passed on, I plan to make and sell animal-themed cupcakes in memory of my cats – and money raised will go to the PDSA charity.

Francine Lawrence Hiscock, Llantwit Major.

GEM NOTE: Our original correspondent, Rachel Howells, whose cat, Jasmine, is still going strong at 20, has thanked readers who have shared the stories of their own long-lived felines.

She said: "If she can measure up to Mixie (22 years) and Harry (24 years) we'll be thrilled."

At the time of writing, Rachel was unaware of Sasha's longevity!

## NEW Year, NEW kitchen doors and worktops!



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Lines open MON - SAT 8AM - 8PM, SUN 10AM - 4PM

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# Out and About with The GEM

## WHAT'S ON & WHERE IN YOUR AREA!

### Valeways walks

ON Sunday, February 9 at 2pm, 'Woods and Cwm Ciddy', starting at the bottom of Fishponds Hill, Porthkerry.

On Sunday, February 16 at 2pm, 'the Llanccadle dawdle', starting at Green Dragon pub, Llanccadle.

### Vale Farmers' Markets

VALE Farmers' Markets have changed their trading hours and will now be open from 9am-12.30pm.

Markets will continue to be held on the first and third Saturday of every month at Arthur John's car park, North Road, Cowbridge, and on the fourth Saturday of every month at Westbourne School, Penarth.

### Top choir's home concert

AN internationally-renowned choir will be singing to a 'home crowd' in Cefn Cribwrlth this Friday, February 7 at the Community Centre (Green Hall).

Kenfig Hill & District Male Voice Choir has performed in prestigious venues throughout the UK, including the Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham Symphony Hall, the Millennium Centre and St David's Hall and has entertained audiences across the globe.

The choir practices in North Cornelly and will

be joined by two talented young soloists, Erin Downs and Jacob Lewis.

Tickets are £5 for the 'Early Valentine' concert, which starts at 7pm. Contact Mandy Baldwin on 07917097975.

### Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery tomorrow (February 7) from 4pm - 6pm at Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry CF62 7EH.

### Fibromyalgia support

THE next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group is on Tuesday, February 11, 11am - 1pm. Call Gaynor for more details on 01446 733315.

### Mayor's coffee morning

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning, in aid of Merthyr Dyfan Church, on Tuesday February 11 from 10.30am - 12 noon in the Civic Office. All are welcome.

### Top to Toe talk

THE next meeting of Dinas Powys Local History Society will be held on Tuesday, February 11 at 7.30pm in Kynance Hall.

There will be a talk by Rosemary Scadden, 'Top to Toe' - a social

history of clothes. An administration fee of £3 for non-members and £1.50 for members will be charged at the door. All welcome. Enquiries to Betty Williams (tel: 029 2051 3524).

### Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, February 13 south Wales artist and tutor Howard Jones will give a pen and wash demonstration at the Old Hall, Cowbridge 7pm - 9pm.

Visitors and new members welcome. For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

### Three choirs in harmony

THREE choirs come together again at the Sony Theatre on Saturday, February 15.

Local Newcastle Hill-based charity, St John's House Trust, has invited back Bridgend Male Choir; Vocelle Ladies' Choir and Oldcastle School Choir who gave a concert last year.

The award-winning Bridgend choir is delighted to appear with the ladies from Pontyclun and the local schoolchildren. Comperes are Gareth Davies and tickets (£5) can be purchased in advance from Felicity's Jewellers, Noltan

Street, or at the door from 6.30pm.

### Candlelit concert

SUNDAY, February 16 at 4pm will see this year's Candlelit concert presented by musicians and singers from Atlantic College at St Donat's church.

The programme is 'Mainly Madrigals'.

Proceeds will go to the Horac Orphanage in Nepal and to church funds. Tickets, £4 (to include refreshments) available from Nickleby's Bookshop in Llantwit Major, from church members and at the door.

### Charity coffee

THE Porthcawl Committee for Cancer Research will be holding its annual coffee morning at All Saints Church Hall on February 18, at 10.30am. Stalls and raffle. Every penny raised goes to eradicating cancer.

### School Oliver!

A R C H B I S H O P McGrath Catholic High School will be holding their school production of *Oliver* on February 18 - 20 February, 7.15pm. Tickets are adults £5; concessions £4 and a family ticket (two adults, two concessions), £15. Contact 01656 815500 for more information.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D812:

● £2,000: 642350.  
● The rollover, which now stands at £5,000 was not won this week.

● £10: 9 8 6 2 8 8 .  
156691, 768634, 510142, 441739, 457065, 120733, 421664, 101223, 422201, 558045, 405572, 882287, 560689, 268271, 223057, 642840, 104685, 807498, 140519.

● £5: 530136, 878396, 442420, 511484, 130738, 667887, 521101, 569569, 377434, 907446, 799871, 414354, 298609, 378175, 607855, 198039, 736442, 737065, 536564, 535032, 828280, 598675, 112985, 109423, 292548, 746880, 825620, 813321, 505135, 711749, 398670, 476773, 781874, 863400, 595978, 725865,

885129, 153129, 450981, 617591, 436967, 772476, 568847, 713975, 439504, 406592, 504338, 526540, 764430, 742914, 416098, 179677, 870046, 689462, 560906, 627850, 243082, 001065, 000973, 000185.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

## YFC display their talents

THE Glamorgan Federation of Young Farmers Clubs presents its annual entertainments competition on February 7-8 at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

It sees members of Glamorgan's seven clubs take to the stage to showcase their singing and dancing, acting and comic talents.

The winning cast will go forward to represent Glamorgan at the Wales finals in Llandudno in March and from that, the winning team go forward to the national finals held in

## Jack Ryan's reboot fails to enthrall

IT seems de rigueur in 21st century film-making to remake or reboot what once was successful. Nothing seems sacred any more, as characters are chopped and changed to fit into what a modern audience wants to see, when more often than not, the bottom line is the box office receipts.

The latest character to get the reboot treatment is Jack Ryan, whose once Alec Baldwin/Harrison Ford/Ben Affleck-shaped shoes are now being filled by Chris Pine.

In Jack Ryan: *Shadow Recruit*, Ryan is a young CIA analyst, engaged to Cathy (Keira Knightley) and mentored by William Harper (Kevin Costner); but when he unravels a Russian plot to destabilise the American economy, led by Viktor Cherevin (Kenneth Branagh, who also directs), Ryan is flung headlong into the murky world of espionage where his life is on the line...

Rebooted spies (or 'analysts' if you will) haven't had the easiest of lives; James Bond was unarguably re-energised by *Casino Royale*, but the Jeremy Renner-starring *Bourne Legacy* was a misfire (albeit one that is enjoying a sequel in 2015). So which side of the fence does Jack Ryan fall on?

Unfortunately, it falls squarely on the side of Mr Bourne. *Shadow Recruit* a noble effort that only manages to underwhelm in its anonymity.

Taking the character back to his origins is a smart move; lacking the cold-bloodedness of 007, Ryan is a character whose cerebral ability outweighs any macho posturing, and in the

early stages the film establishes the character and his motives well.

Injured in action, Ryan can help serve his country using his mind rather than his body, a neat spin on the conventions of films of this ilk.

However, once the plot really kicks into gear, you get the overwhelming sense of déjà-vu; the story beats are predictable and tiresome, the characters becoming bogged down in cliché as the narrative unwinds into something any viewer will have seen countless times before.

It is lazy scriptwriting from Adam Cozad and David Koepp, moving the character wholly into the 21st century in terms of technology yet anchoring him with a story that has the distinct whiff of an 80s blockbuster. The Cold War may have thawed, but Russia's enmity towards their American counterparts still bristles, apparently.

Given that Ryan is shown serving in Afghanistan, it seems a shame that Koepp and Cozad didn't try to conjure a story that was more in step with the times; the economic destabilising plot a step forward, but encased in an ageing story.

Having showed potential for bigger budget fare with *Thor*, handing Kenneth Branagh the directorial reins here was, on paper, a smart move, Branagh being able to marry the intelligence to the action. However, his direction here is anonymous and uninvolved. He doesn't do a bad job, far from it, but there is nothing to scream out individuality - the number of aerial shots, in particular, reminiscent of so many action directors.

His performance as the film's villain fares slightly better, even if he comes from the Bond school of bad guys. His backstory gives depth, and



### by GARETH JAMIESON

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embracing, the same can't be said for Keira Knightley, whose performance has a degree of verve (especially in a nicely constructed dinner scene) but, thanks to the script, she all too often feels like a plot point, a character of convenience rather than substance.

The potential of bringing Jack Ryan up to date was huge, but this feels like a missed opportunity, a film that never gets out of first gear; but most of all, *Shadow Recruit* just leaves you unmoved come the end credits.

**VERDICT:** An underwhelming film that is neither feast nor famine, *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit* sees its positives cancelled out by its negatives. While Pine and Costner deliver and make for a good on-screen team, the rest of the performances, Kenneth Branagh's middling direction, and a weak and lifeless story undo the good work.

*Poor.*

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *The Bourne Legacy* (2013), *Mission Impossible 3* (2006).

## Libraries are to celebrate!

THE Vale will be taking part in hundreds of events to celebrate National Libraries Day on Saturday, February 8.

Events at Barry Library include face

### Robin and Bina are back!

POPULAR husband and wife duo Robin and Bina Williamson, return to the *Minstrel Room* at The Little Shop of Calm in Westgate Street, Cowbridge CF71 7AQ at 8pm on March 1, to present their unique blend of Songs, Stories and Music.

Telephone 01446 771166 for tickets.

painting, balloon modelling and visits from local authors Michelle Briscoe and Michaela Weaver.

In Penarth, activities include computer sessions, digital heritage day, toddler time and competitions.

At Cowbridge Library, there are craft sessions and staff will promote the children's reading group Chatterbooks, the six-book challenge and the Library's new reading group.

In Dinas Powys, the public can join in a 'I love my library' photo wall.

Llantwit Major will hold a craft and story session and a 'I love my library' wall.

## STYLE GARDENS SHOW 2014

**SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY**  
9am-5.30pm

**SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY**  
10.30am-4.30pm

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**Saturday, 15th February**  
11am - Bird Care Talk and Q&A  
Donations to Owls4U

**2pm - Bonsai Care Talk** 50p per ticket

**Sunday, 16th February**  
2pm - Allotment Gardening Presentation and Q&A  
with Terry Walton 50p per ticket

**Saturday & Sunday**  
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## Exhibition remembers the Jewish victims of the Nazi Holocaust



The Mayor of the Vale with project manager, Colin Heyman, Professor Glenn Jordan and Coun Neil Moore.

**AN evening of commemoration at Art Central gallery in Barry for Holocaust Memorial Day was hosted by Vale Mayor, Coun Margaret Wilkinson.**

January 27 (Holocaust Memorial Day) is recognised each year as the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust identified this year's theme as 'Journeys' and Art Central explored this at the 'Hinini' exhibition, meaning 'Here I am' in Hebrew.

Colin Heyman, Hinini project manager said: "The project is not only about people's journeys of

survival during the Holocaust, but also how people develop their sense of identity and belonging. The exhibition shows the diversity of our community and a multiplicity of stories; from Welsh speaking Jews to taxi drivers, from anti-apartheid activists to football supporters."

The large photographs displayed 59 individuals and their stories and life experiences.

Dr Glenn Jordan, Hinini project photographer, said: "My work seeks to make critical interventions in pursuit of social justice. It is photography that cares. I want to contribute to a renewal of relationship, with the aid of the camera".

Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Neil Moore read the 'statement of commitment' from the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust; a pledge to strengthen efforts to promote education and research about the Holocaust and other genocides.

"Holocaust Memorial Day is a chance to remember the atrocities suffered by people all over the world and it is up to us to ensure the suffering is never repeated," he said.

The Hinini exhibition will be at Art Central Gallery, King Square, Barry, CF63 4RW, until Saturday, February 8, 10am to 4pm. It is suitable for all ages and entry is free.

## MEMORIES OF THE ARCTIC CONVOY PQ17

**HAVING recently celebrated his 90th birthday, Alan Higgins from Barry is giving an illustrated talk on his role in 'Arctic Convoy PQ17', during the dark days of the Second World War at Barry Library today, February 6.**

The Arctic Convoys were a vital way for Britain to support its Russian ally, but meant that the Merchant Navy ships and their Royal Navy escorts had to run a gauntlet of attacks from land-based Nazi aircraft operating from occupied Norway.

Along with this, there was the deadly Arctic weather, where sea spray froze instantly on all parts of the ship, making it unstable.

Alan has recently published a book of his memories from his time serving in the Royal Navy.

The talk is organised in partnership between the Barry at War group and Friends of Barry History, and will take place in the Phillip John Room, at Barry Library.

Sunday, February 9 marks this month's open day for the Glamorgan War-time Heritage Centre, at Barry Island

Railway Station, which will be holding the first militaria fair in Barry.

Visitors to our tiny museum often ask where they can buy examples of the exhibits on display, so we are running Barry's first ever 'Militaria Fair'. Here, visitors can buy uniforms, medals and all the other types of militaria popular at these events.

A similar event was established in Brecon some years ago, and has since grown into one of the largest events of this type in Wales, attracting hundreds of people to the town. Our first militaria fair will be on a smaller scale, but we're optimistic that this too will grow.

Next month's event combines the arts and heritage, when we will be holding the first Barry Model Show, where local model making clubs will be exhibiting their work.

There will be space-craft, armoured fighting vehicles, a train layout and the museum's display of over 100 model Royal Air Force aircraft.

This will take place on Sunday, March 9, at the Barry Island Railway Station venue.

Both of these events aim to attract all-weather, out of season visitors to Barry Island.

ADE PITMAN



Alan Higgins during World War Two.

## Danby and Charlie launch special Royal Mail stamps

**THE latest Royal Mail Working Horses stamp release was launched by South Wales Police mounted section at their training centre in Bridgend.**

Danby (ridden by PC Nicola McGill) retires from active duty this week after 13 years of service in Wales, while Charlie, who has only been on active duty for nine months, is ridden by PC Sian Smith.

The six-stamp set salutes the contribution horses still make to working life in the UK, and horses from the Riding for the Disabled Association, The King's Troop ceremonial horses, dray horses, Royal Mews carriage horses, police horses and a forestry horse, all feature.

The special stamps are available online at [www.royalmail.com/workinghorses](http://www.royalmail.com/workinghorses), by phone on 08457 641 641 and in 10,000 Post Offices throughout the UK.

The Riding for the Disabled Association organises horse events, including riding and carriage driving so that 30,000 people with disabilities can enjoy the activities each year.

## MEMO CINEMA AND ENTERTAINMENT



Colin Fry

The Voices From Heaven Tour, an evening with the People's Medium  
Saturday 8 February at 7.30pm



The Elvis Years

Direct from the West End hit show 'Jailhouse Rock'  
Friday 28 March at 7.30pm



The Bon Jovi Experience

The only Bon Jovi tribute to perform with Jon Bon Jovi.  
Friday 11 April at 8.00pm



Back to Broadway

All of the best loved musicals, in one spectacular show.  
Saturday 26 April at 7.30pm

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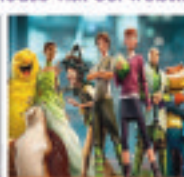
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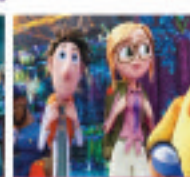
About Time (12A)  
Monday 10 February  
1.00pm & 7.00pm  
£4.50 / £5.50



Le Weekend (15)  
Monday 17 February  
1.00pm & 7.00pm  
£4.50 / £5.50



Epic (U)  
Monday 24 February  
10.00am  
TICKETS £2.00



Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 (U)  
Thursday 27 February  
10.00am  
TICKETS £2.00

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## GEM LETTERS' EXTRA...GEM LETTERS EXTRA...

**'Put council mergers plan to a referendum' – SAYS EX-LEADER**

**I**T was good to see that all parties represented on the Vale Council are opposed to its proposed 'take-over' by Cardiff, as recommended by the Williams' Report. I trust that the Liberal Democrats who will, of course, have influence with the Welsh Government, are of the same view.

It should be recognised that there appear to be good points in the report but these seem to have been ignored in what seems to be a head-long rush by both the authors of the report and the Welsh Government to move the merger/takeover plans for councils forward with indecent haste.

To expect decisions to be made by Easter/end of March on what will

affect the lives of everyone in Wales (and many not yet born) seems too rushed and can only store up problems for the long term or at least for the next 20 years or so, which seems to be the gap between local government reorganisation in Wales.

The report has been called 'independent' but it has to be asked how its members were chosen.

Most of the arguments against a 'takeover' were put forward last week, but some of the most important are:

The disparity in size between the Vale and Cardiff is larger than with any other of the proposed mergers, with the exception of RCT and Merthyr. Most of the other mergers are of equals, or near equals, or would not leave one council as the dominating force.

It must be borne in mind that it is proposed to leave Powys untouched, a council that has a population only a little greater than the Vale, but spread over what will have the largest area in Wales. If Powys will be viable, why not the Vale?

There has been much argument over the LDP (both the current plan and the one it replaced). Cardiff has a rapidly growing population, it doesn't take much to realise where they will be looking for land in the future.

The Vale has an excellent record for delivering services – I'm not sure that Cardiff could say this. It would be good to believe that a takeover would result in

the raising of standards in Cardiff but I'm worried it would be the other way.

As was pointed out in the last edition of The GEM, the current Welsh Government has no electoral mandate for this course of action and I would suggest that if they believe that these far reaching changes are what the people of Wales want, they put it to a referendum.

This could be held on the same day as the next Assembly elections in 2016, without a significant increase in cost.

If they are not prepared to do this, then why couldn't the Vale Council carry out its own survey of public opinion?

A local referendum would be the ideal solution, but I'm sure cost would be a factor that could not be ignored. If this is not possible, then could the council carry out a public opinion survey to gauge views?

My recollection is that something similar was done in the mid 1990s and that the view then was not favourable.

**Gordon Kemp,**  
*(former Conservative leader of the Vale Council).*

**COUNCIL SHOULD REJECT 'DEVELOPERS' CHARTER'**

**I**T'S well-known that official housing projections are exaggerated, due to be revised down and the Welsh Government edict to instead increase the target, should surely bring the Vale Council to address the arguments.

Cardiff Council obtained a report to support their LDP going below the projections, though it still aims too high.

Why should our part of the city-region provide for high in-migration and Cardiff overspill in the Vale, rather than in areas better connected transport-wise and needing regeneration?

The Vale LDP chose to use the 2008 population projection of the WG, rather than the lower 2011 census figure. It assumed 2008 projec-

tions of household size, on the excuse of waiting for new projections.

Yet the 2011 figure did not show the predicted drop, and the expectation it will drop to 2.05 persons per household (from the present 2.32) is fantasy.

Mike Carney of Cowbridge, and Dr Ian Johnson of Barry, have both pointed out that realistic projections come up with 6,000 to 7,000 homes up to 2026.

Barry and Vale FoE think even these numbers are likely to be 'unsustainable', especially as the LDP has no proposals for the necessary high-quality transport links.

So let's see the Vale Council rejecting the WG edict and the 'developers' charter' for high growth in the eastern Vale and select villages.

**Max Wallis, Penarth.**  
*(Barry and Vale FoE)*

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# VALENTINE'S DAY



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♥ **Valentine's Day** ♥

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ON FEBRUARY 14, REMEMBER THE STORY OF A BRAVE SAINT FROM ANCIENT ROME!

## True love will never die – thanks to the courageous sacrifice of defiant St Valentine

**I**N the modern era, Valentine's Day has become a time to honour that special love in your life.

For some people, there is a special person who does not know it yet, hence the tradition of the anonymous card with a teasing question mark!

Many couples see it as a day not only to affirm their love, but also to have some 'us' time.

Despite our hectic lives, it only takes a little planning to book an evening at a popular local pub or restaurant.

Once you get there, you will find the effort has been more than worthwhile.

All relationships need ongoing TLC, that's why a card, some flowers perhaps, a little gift and an evening out, can mean so much.

### ORIGINS

So how did St Valentine's Day become so special for those expressing their love?

It's origins lie in the Roman Empire when the Emperor Claudius was having a diffi-

cult time getting soldiers to join his legions.

He believed that the reason was because soldiers did not want to leave their loves and families.

As a result, Claudius cancelled all marriages and engagements in Rome.

Enter a brave Christian priest called St Valentine, who decided to defend the concept of love in the midst of empire.

In disobedience to Claudius, Valentine began to secretly marry couples.

### DIED FOR LOVE

When Emperor Claudius was informed of these ceremonies, Valentine was sent to prison, where he remained until his death on February 14 in the year 270, when he was clubbed, stoned, then beheaded.

The story goes that while Valentine was in prison awaiting execution, he fell in love with the blind daughter of the jailer, Asterius.

Through his unswerving faith, he miraculously

restored her sight. He signed a farewell message to her 'From Your Valentine' – a phrase that still echoes through the centuries.

If the story is authentic, it could be described as the first Valentine's card.

**MARTYRED**  
Mid-February was traditionally the time of the Lupercian festival, an ode to the god of fertility and a time to meet and court a prospective mate.

In AD 496, Pope Gelasius outlawed the pagan festival. But he was clever to replace it with a similar celebration, one deemed morally suitable.

He needed a 'lovers' saint to replace the pagan deity, Lupercus.

The martyred Valentine was chosen as the patron saint of the new festival.

*There are only a handful of dates that are celebrated in the 365 days of our calendar, but the fact that St Valentine is commemorated as one of them, shows his sacrifice for love has never been forgotten.*

**THE SIX BELLS**  
Penmark  
*Village Pub & Restaurant*

### VALENTINE'S DINNER

FRIDAY 14th & SATURDAY 15th FEBRUARY  
HOME-COOKED 3-COURSE MENU

\*\*\*\*\*

• Tiger Prawns •  
with garlic, white wine & lemon sauce

• Duck Terrine •  
Served with a cherry compote

\*\*\*\*\*

• Lobster Thermidor •  
Served with buttered new potatoes & crisp dressed salad

• 6oz Welsh Fillet Steak •  
Cooked pink & served with garlic & herb creamed potatoes, balsamic roasted cherry vine tomatoes & a pink peppercorn sauce

\*\*\*\*\*

• Trio of Desserts •  
A selection of Chocolate favourites served with a warm chocolate fondue

• Wild Strawberry Cheesecake •  
Infused with vanilla & finished with a mint syrup

\*\*\*\*\*

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Meals served Mon to Thurs 12 - 9pm,  
Fri & Sat 12 - 9.30pm, Sundays 12 - 5pm.

### Traditional Sunday Lunch

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# January storms reveal 130-year-old Nash Point wreck



by PHILIP IRWIN

THE remains of a large iron hulled vessel, which may date back to the 19th Century, has been uncovered on a beach in the Vale, following recent storms.

The wreck covers an area of over 60 metres and was discovered by archaeologist Paul Huckfield, the co-ordinator of the Arfordir Coastal Heritage project, while exploring the beach near Nash Point last Friday.

Mr Huckfield is from the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT).

He told The GEM that the January storms have been a double-edged sword as far as coastal archaeology is concerned, with sites all along the Welsh coastline having been destroyed and new ones exposed.

This situation, however, was one of the reasons the Arfordir project, a project that aims to monitor changes in the coastal heritage of Wales, was originally created.

Mr Huckfield said: "After the storms, our groups of volunteers have been really busy recording changes and we have been inundated with information via email and through social media."

The wreck is only one of the many discoveries that have come to light over the past few weeks along the South Wales coast; others include prehistoric footprints, two 17th century cannon from Pink Bay, Porthcawl, and a large ship's wheel from Swansea Bay.

Mr Huckfield is hoping to undertake a survey of the wreck with the Vale of Glamorgan vol-



unteers in the near future, before attempting to solve the mystery of the shipwreck's identity.

The wreck may be the remains of the Ben-y-Gloe, a full-rigged iron ship that ran aground at Nash Point near Marcross on October 15, 1886.

For more information on the Arfordir project, visit: [www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html](http://www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html)

## 'Don't go to the A&E with minor injuries' – call

WELSH Tory leader IAndrew RT Davies has supported a call by Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) to patients not to visit A&E with minor injuries after an influx at the University Hospital of Wales.

The regional Assembly Member called on the Health Minister to ensure that health boards in Wales have rigorous 'winter contingency plans' in place.

He said it was vital that emergency departments are adequately staffed and resourced to deal with an influx of patients needing acute care. This requires a rigorous and flexible contingency plan to deal with added demand during winter.

## Fairtrade needs you!

IN a couple of weeks, the world will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight, an annual event which unites communities throughout the world behind the principle of using trade to create a fairer international market place.

Just a couple of years

ago our critics said we were too small and would make no difference to world trade, how wrong could they be!

In the UK alone, sales of Fairtrade products in 2012 reached £1.5 billion, an 18 per cent increase on the previous year.

One in every three bananas sold in the UK is Fairtrade, 44 per cent of bagged sugar sold in the UK is Fairtrade certified, and 25 per cent of all roast and ground retail coffee in the UK is Fairtrade certified.

A really big thank you for all your support but also remember to celebrate this year's Fairtrade fortnight (February 24 to March 9).

Fairtrade is needed now more than ever and we all have the power to create positive change for people and the planet together.

Coun Rob Curtis, (Chairman of Barry Town Council's Fairtrade Steering Group).

# Ty Hafan will launch first ever 5k Rainbow Run

TY HAFAN'S first ever Rainbow Run will see participants doused from head to toe in rainbow-coloured powder for a 5k fun run at Coney Beach, Porthcawl, on Sunday, April 27.

The event, which is the first of its kind in Wales, is based on the Indian Holi festival of colour and is expected to raise more than £40,000 for Ty Hafan, the family hospice for young lives.

There are no winners, no official times, and only two rules: entrants must wear white at the start and be plastered in colour every kilometre.

Mair Jeffreys, event organiser at Ty Hafan, said: "The Rainbow Run is not a race, nor is it about speed or fitness; it's about celebration, having crazy fun with friends and raising a smile for Ty Hafan."

"Ty Hafan is a magical place, full of fun and laughter and not what you might imagine a hospice to be. We aim to make the very most of the precious time that our families have together. That's why we think that the Rainbow Run is the

perfect way to celebrate and support the work we do."

Entry is £10 per person or £30 for a group or family of five (family groups must include at least two adults). Each participant is also asked to raise a minimum sponsorship of £50.

On the day, each participant will be given a bottle of water to start and receive a goody bag on completion, as well as a special medal as a thank you from Ty Hafan.

Ty Hafan, which celebrates its 15th anniversary this year, has supported 585 life-limited children, young people and their families since opening its doors in 1999. The charity takes its support right into the family home and is there to help families through every step of their unimaginable journey. For Ty Hafan to offer this unique service completely free of charge to families in Wales, it has to raise more than £3.5 million every year.

To register, or for more information on the Rainbow Run, visit [www.tyhafan.org/rainbowrun](http://www.tyhafan.org/rainbowrun) or call 029 2053 2276.



Picture by John Barwood

## Under Milk Wood is going on tour

TO mark the centenary of Dylan Thomas' birth, actor Owen Teale will star in director Terry Hands' new production of *Under Milk Wood*, which will embark on an English tour, at York Theatre Royal on April 21, following its run at Clwyd Theatr Cymru and a Welsh tour.

The production also marks the 60th anniversary since *Under Milk Wood* was first produced in Britain, as a radio play by the BBC, in 1954.

The cast of Welsh actors also includes *Torchwood* actor Kai Owen and Steven Meo.

Owen Teale, who starred in *Game of Thrones*, won best actor Tony Award for his performance in *A Doll's House* on Broadway and recently starred alongside Zoë Wanamaker in the West End production of *Passion Play* by Peter Nichols. Other theatre credits include *A Doll's House* (West End/Broadway), *Creditors* (Donmar), *Ivanhov* (National Theatre), *Dance of Death* (West End) and *Mary Stuart* (Theatre Clwyd).

For television Owen stars as series regular Ser Alliser in the HBO TV

adaptation of *Game of Thrones*. Other credits include *Stella* (SKY 1), *Ballykissangel* (BBC), *Torchwood* (BBC) and *Murphy's Law* (ITV). Film credits include *The Cherry Orchard*, *Love Me Forever*, *King Arthur* and *Conspiracy*.

Terry Hands is an award-winning British stage director and producer, who founded the Liverpool Everyman Theatre in 1964.

He became joint Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1978 with Trevor Nunn in 1978, and Chief Executive in 1986. In 1997, he became director of Clwyd Theatr Cymru.

He has won numerous awards and accolades including the 1983 Laurence Olivier and the London Critics Circle Theatre Awards for Best Director for *Cyrano de Bergerac*. He was nominated for three Tony Awards in 1985 and in 1993 awarded both the London Evening Standard and the London Critics Circle Theatre Awards for Best Director for *Tamburlaine The Great*.

*Under Milk Wood* is a Clwyd Theatr Cymru production presented on tour by Karl Sydow, Roger Chapman and CAPA.

## 'JOIN SPORT RELIEF MILE'

LOCAL residents are being urged to take part in the Sport Relief Mile, which returns to Barry Island on Sunday, March 23.

Vale MP Alun Cairns will again be among the runners.

He explained: "The route along Friars Road, the Barry Island Mile and Barry Island Seafront is fantastic - I have decided to run the six-mile course."

"All the money raised will help change the lives of people who don't have the advantages that we have."

People can register before the event at [www.sportrelief.com](http://www.sportrelief.com), or simply turn up on the day.

## 'SAY NO TO SOLAR MONSTROSITIES'

WITH regard to the article in The GEM on January 23, we wholly support Coun Kevin Mahoney's stance against the lack of consideration in the siting of solar monstrosities on greenfield sites - where the only parties who really benefit are farmers and developers.

You have referred to various sites, but please add to your list Michaelston-le-Pit and now a new application at Llancadle, which we understand is intended to be larger

and more extensive than any of the others. We also understand that some of the power generation claims are optimistic and surely could be produced from brown field sites where at least the financial rewards might benefit the public purse.

More strength to your arm, the only opposition is from individuals and the press. The applicants are very large and substantial.

Please keep up your investigation and exposures to safeguard the beautiful rural Vale.

Tony and Diana Hooper



# Local infant school's award in an anti-bullying competition



**THE Vale Council has announced that Dinas Powys Infant School has come third in an anti-bullying competition.**

Headteacher Julie Thompson said: "Our school council were thrilled to have received third prize in the Vale of Glamorgan Anti Bullying Competition. They all worked hard to produce a colourful and informative booklet of how we took part in Anti-Bullying week and what we can do to help. The children were ably supported by Caroline Lewis, our school coun-

cil co-ordinator."

The competition asked pupils to carry out activities and produce booklets to describe these activities during Anti Bullying Week (November 18 - 22, 2013).

Coun Chris Elmore cabinet member for children's services, who judged the competition, said: "It is important to work together to create a future without bullying."

"The pupils from Dinas Powys Infant School have worked really hard to come third and I am looking forward to announcing second and first place schools very soon".

*In the picture are: Jack Stogdon, Max Jones, Ben Morgan, Maddy Frankland, Amelia Hodgkinson, and Lily-Bell Davies.*

## Estate agency staff rally to Welsh charity

**STAFF at Peter Alan estate agents have chosen Cancer Research Wales as their official charity partner for 2014.**

Throughout the year they will take part in a wide range of fundraising activities to support the work of Wales' cancer charity.

Highlight events include the Cardiff Half Marathon in October - which some members of staff have run previously in aid of Cancer Research Wales, Welsh Three Peaks Challenge in May, and skydives.

Cancer Research Wales representatives will also be visiting branches to join in bucket collections, clothes donation drives for their charity shops, cake sales and other fundraising events.

All money raised through the partnership will stay in Wales to support the charity's work, such as the pioneering research projects being carried out by internationally renowned scientists and PhD students, and Wales' only specialist cancer library.

Laura Hooper, Fundraising Manager for Cancer Research Wales, commented: "We are extremely grateful for Peter Alan's support, and really looking forward to working together to raise as much money as possible to help give brighter futures to those affected by cancer."

"It's thanks to both our individual and corporate supporters that we are able to fund the

highest calibre of research which has the potential to benefit millions of lives worldwide, as well as those in our local communities."

Paul Stratton, Head of Strategy and Operations for Peter Alan, said: "Cancer touches the lives of many people and the research carried out by Cancer Research Wales is vitally important, so we're delighted to announce that we'll be supporting the charity's fundraising efforts."

"Unfortunately, we lost a member of staff from our Penarth office due to cancer last year, so it is a cause that is very close to us and we all believe continued support for research is vital to give hope to everyone suffering from this awful disease."



## African choir stops off in Barry

**AFTER their uplifting performance of the number one single 'Sing' with Gary Barlow at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the African Children's Choir will be in concert at the Memorial Arts Centre, Barry, at 7pm on Saturday, March 22, for Music for**

Life, their official fundraising charity.

The choir, who travels the world, act as ambassadors for Africa's most vulnerable children and funds raised contribute towards not only the entire education and care of all the touring children, but also to the continued

development and support of the Music for Life programmes.

*Information and booking details for the Barry concert can be obtained from Graham Ellis on 01446 749659; email: ellisgraham@tiscali.co.uk.*

## SCHOOL TAKES ON A CONTINENTAL AIR! European Day 2014 at St Cyres



**HURRAH FOR SWEDEN!**



**MAKING CREPES.**

**AS part of their commitment to foreign language learning, pupils at St Cyres School participated in a European Day event for the 11th consecutive year.**

All pupils in year-9 spent a whole day immersed in European languages culture. More than 200 pupils enjoyed a day of varied and wonderful European activities.

The school took on a European atmosphere as halls and corridors were decked with flags, posters and information relating to Europe - its variety of cultures, food, people and languages.

Smells of foreign dishes wafted through the corridors as pupils tried their hands at French and German culinary delights.

Several months of preparation bore fruit as

outside agencies and staff from a variety of departments gave of their

The modern foreign languages department is indebted to all those who so willingly participated.

The MFL Department is particularly grateful to the PE, catering, and music departments for helping to make the day a truly cross-curricular event.

Other activities included salsa dancing, crepe-making, a Euro-sounds quiz, Russian and Spanish taster sessions, an insight into the life of a languages student at Cardiff University and Mad Hatters who looked at stereotyping...all helped to form a very exciting and enjoyable day.

The feedback from the year-9 pupils was extremely enthusiastic and the excitement of the day caused huge interest among other year groups who were not involved.

*A number of pupils were nominated during the day for their outstanding efforts, including Louis Jamieson, Rebecca Oldreive, Thomas Kitch, Harri Herniman, Ben Thomas, Olivia Newing and Callum Stone.* **SB**

## DYLAN LIVE LAUNCHES TOUR AT CARDIFF AIRPORT

**TRAVELLERS were treated to music and words from some of Wales' top emerging talent recently, as Literature Wales teamed up with Cardiff Airport to launch its Dylan Live project with a preview performance.**

Dylan Live is a 60-minute bilingual performance which traces the origins of hip hop back to Dylan Thomas's trip to New York in 1952.

The performance incorporates vinyl, jazz, beat poetry, hip hop and spoken word to explore whether Dylan Thomas recording his poetry onto vinyl during this trip can be seen as a precursor to the music genre.

The production is led by pro-



fessor and jazz musician Daniel Williams, against the breath-taking visuals of an exclusive film from Ewan Morris Jones.

Performers include poets Martin Daws, Aneirin Karadog and Zaru Jonson, jazz musician Huw V Williams and hip hop artist Ed Holden, all of whom have been influenced by Dylan in

some way or another.

At Cardiff Airport, a collection of multimedia exhibitions was installed to give visitors and residents a taste of the range of activities, attractions and heritage available to them in Wales.

The performance will be touring Welsh universities from February 26 to March 27.

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## Report lists the Vale Council's social services budget pressures

**A REPORT to the audit committee of the Vale Council has revealed that there are still two main areas in social services that are struggling to stay within budget, writes PHILIP IRWIN.**

The committee meets today (February 6) at 6pm and will consider the news that the council is looking for savings to cover overspends in two areas – Looked After Children (LAC), and in funding care packages in Adult Services.

All councils are under budget pressure as a result of UK Government cuts, and the social services budget had been given the ambitious target of cutting £6 million from the budget over the next four years.

The report says that these savings have been "identified" but forecasting the level of demand for Looked After Children and Adult Care Packages is very difficult.

It states that this year, the hoped-for £200,000 saving in the Looked After Children budget is not going to happen.

Similarly, it was hoped to cut £685,000 from the care packages budget, but that has not been possible.

Both areas of spending are difficult to predict, and the report describes community care packages as "volatile".

However, there was evidence of underspends in other budgets, which could still bring about a balanced budget.

The report said: "In Children's Services, the overspend on residential placements for Looked After Children was offset by an underspend in other areas where children were previously receiving a provision prior to their transfer into a residential setting."

"In Adult Services, planning was already under way for the savings required for 2014-15 and, where possible, were being achieved ahead of target."

"An overspend of £140,000 is, therefore, currently being projected for the Directorate, however, work was being undertaken to address this position and overall a balanced budget was anticipated by year end."

## 'TURKEYS DON'T VOTE FOR CHRISTMAS...'

## So why should councillors back mergers?'

**I HAVE often asked myself why we had a chief executive in the Vale on around £160K per annum, and another on a similar package 12 miles away in Cardiff.**

Other well-paid heads of service are duplicated in similar fashion in all 22 councils in Wales.

Would any private company operate like that with due responsibility to its shareholders? Similarly, the council has responsibility to its constituents.

It seems the obvious solution is to 'amalgamate and consolidate' to the benefit of taxpayers, thus reducing future council tax rises.

The Williams report suggesting a reduction from 22 to 10 authorities is the obvious choice, given that future cuts are unavoidable. The current situation is unsustainable. The total number of councillors in the Vale and Cardiff councils should be reduced, perhaps by 50 per cent.

The negative response from many councillors to this merger is predictable. Turkeys don't vote for Christmas. By comparison, Scotland has double the population and twice the land mass of Wales – and a lot fewer councillors!

The rhetoric that the Vale will be swamped by Cardiff-planned housing developments is unfounded. Let's not forget that it was the Vale Council which was the only local authority to build houses on a headland – Barry Island – in the UK in the last 50 years.

Perhaps a larger authority may not have made decisions which were not in the public interest, such as the closure of the largest lido in Wales – while many in England became listed; and the selling of assets, including the White House on Friars Point.

Cardiff Council has provided much

### LETTER TO EDITOR

in the way of amenities for its citizens in the form of excellent sporting facilities over the years. With that sort of forward thinking, perhaps Barry Island tourism could have benefited.

Not surprisingly, councillors who are normally in opposition are now united in voicing their shared opposition to a Cardiff – Vale merger!

The recent meeting – a gathering of turkeys attended by all council leaders of the 22 local authorities – is unlikely to suggest an expeditious acceptance of these changes.

A long, drawn out debate will merely delay the inevitable which could be brought about by legal means.

I hope the councillors and officers from both authorities can unite and work constructively and positively in the interest of the tax-paying public.

Let's not forget that the Vale Council had one of the highest community charge increases last year, with a similar increase under consideration for this year.

In light of this process going ahead in the interests of efficiency and long-term cash savings, the short-term financial consequences are the large redundancy packages which will need to be addressed.

It would also be regrettable if these unavoidable changes were followed by an additional recruitment of 25 to 40 extra Assembly Members, which has been suggested by a recent poll of AMs.

We are over-governed in Wales and the last thing we need is more AMs – especially in light of their performance so far in health, education, transport and the economy.

**Philip Clarke, Independent councillor for Rhosce**

## Cowbridge litter pick is helping pupils to go on trip of a lifetime

**by GEM REPORTER**

**TWO local school-boys, members of a national choir, are planning a sponsored St David's Day litter pick - to raise funds towards the trip of a lifetime to South Africa.**

Will Davies, aged 12, who attends Cowbridge Comprehensive School, and Huw Jones, also 12, of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, are members of the 'Wales Millennium Centre Only Kids Aloud Chorus' and will be singing alongside one of Wales' great international stars.

Huw said: "We are planning to raise funds by carrying out a litter pick in Cowbridge on Saturday, March 1."

"The visit is part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the end of apartheid."

Will said: "We will perform alongside Welsh bass baritone, Bryn Terfel, who is also making the trip."

The trip is costing the boys £850 each and their fundraising efforts are on behalf of the Wales Millennium Centre, which is helping to organise the trip.

The joint Just Giving page for Will and Huw's litter pick is [www.justgiving.com/willandhuwlitterpick](http://www.justgiving.com/willandhuwlitterpick).

The choir and Bryn are performing two concerts in the spring at Artscape Theatre Centre on Cape Town's waterfront.

## WALES SQUAD ANNOUNCED

**WALES Rugby League have released an initial 22-man training squad for the South Wales Academy under-16s side.**

They will attend training days at Maesteg School, in preparation for the 2014 Academy season, which starts with a home fixture against Wakefield Trinity Wildcats on Saturday, February 22.

WRL development manager Mark Jones said: "We were really pleased with the turnout for this year's trial and we were even more pleased with the standard of play that was on show."

WRL performance coach Jon Ellis continued: "The South Wales Academy side is an important stepping stone on the player pathway of rugby league in south



**ABOVE:**  
Bryn Terfel

It is part of the Africa-UK arts and culture season in 2014, marking the 20th anniversary of the demise of apartheid and the flowering of democracy.

Bryn said: "Singing alongside a 70-strong young choir from Wales in South Africa will be a terrific experience, not only for me, but for all the young choristers from all parts of Wales."

"This will truly be a life-changing experience for the children, and as a parent myself, I know it will also be a memorable and proud experience for their parents, too."

The idea behind the Wales Millennium Centre/Only Kids Aloud Chorus came about in 2011 when Wales Millennium Centre collaborated with Only Men Aloud's musical director, Tim Rhys Evans, to form a Welsh children's choir.

If readers know of litter 'hot spots' locally they can email [will@argood.co.uk](mailto:will@argood.co.uk) and the boys will include it in their litter pick.



**ABOVE:** If people know of litter 'hot spots' in Cowbridge, they can email [will@argood.co.uk](mailto:will@argood.co.uk) and the boys will include it during their March 1 litter pick.

Their joint just giving page for donations is: [www.justgiving.com/willandhuwlitterpick](http://www.justgiving.com/willandhuwlitterpick).

## NEW PLAN FOR SOLAR FARM IN LLANCADLE

**ANOTHER planning application to build a solar farm in the Vale could be on the way – this time at Llanccadle Farm, between St Athan and Rhosce.**

The renewable energy company, Lumicity Ltd, has asked the Vale Council for an 'environmental impact assessment screening opinion' on a proposal to build an 8MW solar panel

farm. The screening opinion is simply a request to the Vale Council to see if an environmental impact assessment would need to be commissioned and paid for. Further details are not available as yet.

However, an 8MW farm at Sutton Mawr, near Moulton, received planning permission recently and will take up an area of 19.11 hectares.

## Farmer's enjoy a dry day at Whitchurch



**Left to right: Richard Taylor, Gino Cocco, Aubrey Bowen, Dan Jarvis, Martin Edwards and society captain Gwyn Thomas.**

**MEMBERS of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society assembled at Whitchurch Golf Club in Cardiff last Thursday, to enjoy a round of golf played in dry conditions that for many proved quite a change from what they have experienced this winter.**

Sponsored by Mr Gino Cocco of Llanharan Concrete Ltd, 32 contestants competed for the many quality prizes available that resulted in a very close leaderboard at the conclusion of play.

First past the post to collect the Llanharan Concrete Ltd Rose Bowl was nine-handicap golfer Dan Jarvis, who scored an impressive 34 stableford points.

Dan also collected the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge-sponsored prize for the longest drive. Martin Edwards finished runner up with 32 points; in third place with 31 points was Aubrey Bowen, followed by Trevor Wooding, also with 31 points.

Richard Taylor proved a clear winner in the section for the guests, finishing with 32 points, followed by John Campbell, who scored 27, James

Hayes finishing third with 24.

Nearest the pin on the par three holes were John Caines, Trevor Wooding, Gareth Perkins and tree wrestler David Williams. The Premier Turf Ltd sponsored lost ball sweep was won by Clive Thomas, resulting in £100 being raised for the Noah's Ark Children's Charity.

Society members are now looking forward to the annual presentation dinner and dance at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, scheduled for this Friday, February 7. **TMC**



# WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT, AND WHERE IN THE VALE?

Mrs M Proctor – **11 King Street, Penarth** – Two storey rear extension and alterations. Western Power Distribution – **Land at Treguff** – New 'H Pole' under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. William R P Bevington – **3 Orchard Close, Singingstone** – Fell Acer tree. Mrs Mary Gardner – **Rear boundaries of 3 Clive Crescent and 43 Clive Place, Penarth** – Prune two Ash trees. Mr Patrick Wilkins – **Woodlands, Heol Ty Mawr, Pendoylan** – Fell two Sycamores and reduce one on its own to height of clematis. Harris Pye Ltd – **Units 5 and 6, Llandow Business Park, Sutton Road, Llandow** –

Proposed office building and associated works, including car parking, access, landscaping and variation of condition 9 of planning permission 2011/00673/FUL to allow development within existing retained grassland. Professor J Hines – **45 Lavernock Road, Penarth** – Erection of single storey extension to side of property. New insulated render to external walls; internal and external alteration and refurbishment; new timber windows to replace existing upvc. David Wilson Homes – **Former Emporium Garden Centre, Fferm Goch, Llangan** – Reserved matters for erection of 40

dwellings. Ms Adriana Owens – **52 Hastings Avenue, Penarth** – Proposed loft conversion and increased driveway. Western Power Distribution – **Land adjacent to Sutton Farm, Barry** – Erection of 33kV overhead line and a wooden 'H Pole'. Mr and Mrs Ceri Binding – **4 Dol Gwartheg, Penarth** – Single storey rear extension. Mr Mark Careless – **25 St Davids Avenue, Dinas Powys** – Two storey side extension to side; formation of vehicle hard standing to front complete with dropped kerb access to existing highway. Mrs A Mainwaring – **2**

**Birds Lane, Cowbridge** – Change of use of unit from A1 to A1/A3 shopfront alterations. Mr Mark Daniell – **Head to Head, 5 and 5C Station Road, Dinas Powys** – Proposed new shopfront and first floor windows. Marks and Spencer Plc – **Culverhouse Cross** – Erection of Class A1 250 square metre extension to south east elevation of Marks and Spencer store. Mr and Mrs Powell – **60 Coleridge Avenue, Penarth** – Proposed extension above the existing side single storey extension to create an additional habitable room to first floor level. Mr G Williams – **16 St Michaels Close, St Athan** – Proposed rear and side additions to existing dwelling to ground floor. The Cross Inn – **Llantwit Major Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – Extensions and alterations to ground and first floor. Mr Brian Passmore – **12 St Annes Avenue, Penarth** – Erection of single storey extension to rear of bungalow. Mr Austin Chivers – **The Curiosity Shop, 21 Cardiff Road, Barry** – The ground floor flat has been in use as a self contained flat for more than four years. Mr and Mrs M Gaglani – **3 Barons Close, Penarth** – Proposed single and double storey extensions to side extension. Mrs Natalie Dillon – **RAF St Athan, St Athan** – Applications to vary Conditions 7 and 8 of planning permission 2013/00699/FUL. Waitrose Ltd – **Waitrose, Bird Lane, Cowbridge** – Proposed Horticulture unit and associated works. Vodafone Limited – **Rooftop of Barry Gymnasium, 9 Paget Road, Barry** – Proposed replacement of six Telefonica 02 antennas with six Vodafone antennas, together with replacement of two equipment cabinets and additional single equipment cabinet. Mrs N Richards – **Tudor Lodge,**

**Bonvilston** – The construction and replacement of an existing retaining wall due to collapse, the retaining structure will be of masonry blockwork and faced with natural stone for a height of 1.5m, the wall will be finished on top with 1.5m high close boarded fencing. Mr Robert Phillips – **Llaneinnydd, St Nicholas** – Conversion of existing coach house to dwelling, renewal of existing planning approval. Swanbridge Beach Ltd – **Beach Road, Sully** – Temporary alterations to sea defence proposals at the foreshore, Swanbridge, Sully. Dr Richard Davies – **25b Archer Road, Penarth** – Form new extension to side of the property and internal alterations. Front window to be changed back to the original style timber framed windows. Enlarge first floor to form room in roof over new extension. Mr John Smith – **7 Downs View, Aberthorn** – Amended application to original approval notice ref no 2013/01060/FUL. Ground floor kitchen extension amended from 9m from existing rear wall of living room to 10.100m. Mr Matthew Morgan – **14 Crescent Close, Cowbridge** – The construction of a two storey side and rear extension (8.7 x 4m) to create new entrance hall to the existing property with access to living room on the ground floor and new staircase to master bedroom and ensuite. Externally, realigning the existing driveway and connecting the proposals to existing foul drainage system. Mrs N Richards – **Tudor Lodge, Bonvilston** – Erection of external sheep shed for water and feed storage. Gilles Esquiroir – **Causeway House, Causeway Hill, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – Two storey, single storey and first floor extensions together with double garage and BBQ enclosure. Mitch Gee – **Bryn Awel, High Street, Llantwit Major** – Reduce Ash tree.

Mr Thistlewood – **9 Lougher Place, St Athan** – Conservatory to rear of dwelling. Mr Patrick Smith – **22 Chestnut Avenue, St Athan** – Small show-er/wc extension to the south/west elevation. Mrs C Harries – **The Old Vicarage, Penmark** – Proposed new dwelling in garden of property on site of existing tennis court. Dr Judith Lewis – **123 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – Demolition of existing rear single storey conservatory. Construction of new rear single storey extension. Conversion of existing rear space to form bedroom and ensuite. Provision of five new velux roof windows. Minor internal structural alterations. Mrs Jo Buckfield – **3 Commercial Street, Llantwit Major** – Conversion of three storey house to accommodate a ground floor interior design studio with creation of two flats on the first and second floors. Includes the demolition of existing rear extensions to be replaced by a new single storey extension. Mr L Doods – **South Lodge, St Andrews Major** – Replace existing car port with new double garage with workshop over. Cardiff City Football Club – **Opposite Hensol Villas, CCFC Training Centre, Hensol** – Construction of a two storey football centre with parking. Mr Rhodri Jones – **11 Raglande Court, Llantwit Major** – Alterations to existing flat roof forming a pitched roof, remodelling to rear elevation. Mr Boffy – **45 Colcot Road, Barry** – Gable fronted conservatory to rear. Mr Bright – **31 Jewel Street, Barry** – Replace existing workshop/store with a stand alone conservatory. Mr and Mrs N Woodward – **6 Pioden For, Barry** – New porch. Mrs Lisa Carson – **Shangri La, Barry Road, Dinas Powys** – Proposed garage. Mr Mark Daniell – **Head to Head, 5 and 5C Station Road, Dinas Powys** –

Proposed new shop front signage. Ms Joanna Davies – **57 The Parade, Barry** – Decking, gazebo, shed and summerhouse. Mr Len Evans – **Garden Cottage, Court Drive, Llansannor** – Single storey extension to form lounge. Mr P Sweeney – **11 Grimson Close, Sully** – Single storey side extension. Mr Philip Walker – **The Coach House, 20 Plymouth Road, Barry** – Change of use, Coach House to administrative office for building company. Wales and West Housing Association – **Redwood Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major** – Construction of 12 new dwellings. Mr and Mrs Ian Palmer – **Stable Cottage, Broughton** – Increase width and height of proposed new garden room from arrangement approved in planning permission ref 2013/00761/FUL. Mr M Taylor – **6 Wolfe Close, Cowbridge** – Proposed dormer. Lidl UK GmbH – **Canin Pedr, Barry** – Proposed extension of Lidl food-store including construction of external trolley bay and associated groundworks. Mr and Mrs James Lee – **21 Hastings Avenue, Penarth** – Existing conservatory roof to be replaced with flat roof complete with glazed roof lantern. Lounge to side to be converted back to garage complete with pitched roof over. Loft conversion complete with hip to gable and dormer to rear. Mr and Mrs A Jackson – **1 Cwrt y Vil Road, Penarth** – Existing driveway access onto Cwrt y Vil Road to be widened complete with electronically operated gates, new gate to existing pedestrian access. Professor Richard Weston – **Rear of 24 Bassett Road, Sully, Penarth** – Construction of a single storey detached dwelling and associated parking and landscaping. Mr and Mrs Peter Ballyntyne – **Burradoo, Westgate, Cowbridge** – Single storey first floor side extension. Mr Paul Stevens –

**Oakdale, Sully Road, Penarth** – Construction of a new three bedroom bungalow; outline application. Mr Robert Harry – **Land adjacent to Old Port Road, Wenvoe** – Construction of menage for exercising/training horses (re-submission of 2013/00377/FUL). Dr Alexander Peter Smith – **Holmview, Pen Y Turnpike Road, Dinas Powys** – Widening of existing vehicular access. Mr David Ephraim – **10 Maes y Coed, The Knap, Barry** – Erection of rear first floor extension. Mr and Mrs Marcus and Kirsten Rees – **4 Raisdale Gardens, Penarth** – Proposed dormers and balcony. Mr Andrew Healey – **Dow Corning, Fresh Water Pond, Cardiff Road, Barry** – Partial infill of existing fresh-water pond. Mr Richard Hayward – **Beach Cliff, The Esplanade, Penarth** – Development of five residential units for previously approved refurbishment of Beach Cliff, Penarth. Silver Crescent Estates Limited – **77 Romilly Park Road, The Knap, Barry** – Proposed construction of five dwellings with access, on site parking and amenity facilities. Mr and Mrs Summerhayes – **Stone Court, Bonvilston** – Retrospective extension to stable building to provide stables/garages and log store. Mr and Mrs David Llewellyn – **Brocastle Barn, Colwinston, Cowbridge** – Conversion of barn to a three-bedroom dwelling. Mr and Mrs Tim Raikes – **19 Bittern Way, Penarth** – Two storey extension to front. Mr Gerry Steinhauer – **101 Boverton Road, Llantwit Major** – Demolish existing garage on east side of the house, extend drive on east side of existing house, build new garage on west side of existing house, build new garage on west side of existing house, build two four-bed detached houses with garages to the north east of the existing house within curtilage of the garden.

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

### Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00048/ADV  
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed new shop front signage  
Location/Lleoliad: Head to Head, 5 and 5c, Station Road, Dinas Powys  
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Dinas Powys

### Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00050/LBC  
Proposal/Cynnig: Single storey extension to form lounge  
Location/Lleoliad: Garden Cottage, Court Drive, Llansannor  
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

### Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00055/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Construction of 12 new dwellings  
Location/Lleoliad: Redwood Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00080/OUT  
Proposal/Cynnig: Demolition of existing garage (retention of house No. 79, Salop Street) and construction of 9 x one bedroom flats and 1 x 2 bedroom bungalow with parking plus ancillary works  
Location/Lleoliad: The Garage, Salop Street, Penarth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00081/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Solar farm comprising of installation of photo/voltaic panels with a total capacity of up to 7MW, 1 No electrical substation, 7 No power inverter stations, 4 No pole mounted CCTV cameras, paladin fencing and ancillary work  
Location/Lleoliad: Land off Weycock Cross, Weycock Road, Barry

### May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00055/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Construction of 12 new dwellings  
Location/Lleoliad: Redwood Close, Boverton, Llantwit Major

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2014/00065/FUL  
Proposal/Cynnig: Widening of existing vehicular access  
Location/Lleoliad: Holmview, Pen Y Turnpike Road, Dinas Powys

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 6 February, 2014

M. Goldsworthy  
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,  
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

**Sea anglers turn out to help charity**

**DOW CORNING Sea Angling Club held a charity open sea fishing match on Cold Knap and Porthkerry to raise money for Ashgrove school in Penarth who teach and support children who suffer with autism.**

The match attracted 140 anglers from South Wales and England. The fishing was poor with only 32 anglers weighing fish. The winner was Andrew Hutchins with a total weight of 1.92kg. Second was Lee Byrne with 1.3kg and third Wayne Saunders with 1.1kg. Andrew and Lee sportingly put £70 of their pool money back into the charity. A presentation and raffle was held at the Ship Hotel who kindly give us the room free of charge. £3,450 was raised with Dow Corning contributing to the total.

A big thank you to all those who helped with the

running of the event, donated prizes, fished and bought raffle tickets. Here are the people who donated prizes. LME UK (£300), Dave Bobbett of Anchorman Charters (£200), Seaview Lads (£100), Rims Motors (£50), Cape DBI (Kindle Fire), SHS Scaffolding (portable DVD), Forklift Training Services, The Cherry Orchard, Tynewydd Inn, Full Throttle Motorcycles, Zulu Engineering, Master Fryer, Llonis - Skomer Rd, Harry Asprou, Barry Angling, Holton Road Angling, Ewenny Angling, Bob's Tackle, Andrew-Leeda UK, Reel Bearings Ltd, Joe Arch, Gerald John, Steve Rees, Tony Gwyther, Colin Sjinod, Bob Radman, Lead heads Colin Doyle, Jim Morgan, Simon Marsh, Steve Lawrence (Welsh shirt), Phil and Jim for doing the bookings. Sian and Tess for buffet and Debbie, Julie and Nadine for the raffle tickets.

**John Little**



# Burnett davies with Easton

**Dinas Powys**  
029 2051 2222

5B Station Road  
Dinas Powys  
CF64 4DE

**Barry**  
01446 737253

17 High Street  
Barry  
CF62 7EA

**Cardiff**  
029 2062 1081

21 Penlline Road  
Whitchurch  
CF14 2AA

Email: [info@bdeaston.com](mailto:info@bdeaston.com)

Web: [www.bdeaston.com](http://www.bdeaston.com)



**Merthyr Street  
Barry • £99,950**

**\*\*Excellent first time buy / investment opportunity\*\***  
Centrally located, large through lounge, kitchen, utility room and bathroom plus 3 bedrooms.



**Jubilee Gardens  
Barry • £132,500**

An immaculate, 2 bedroom, mid-terrace property with sizeable living room, large conservatory, well equipped kitchen and good sized bathroom. Beautiful front and rear gardens.



**Princes Street,  
Barry • £134,500**

Fully refurbished/updated house comprising 3 bedrooms, contemporary bathroom & stunning, open plan ground floor accommodation with large kitchen/diner & adjoining living room.



**Cwlwm Cariad  
Pencoedre Village  
Barry • £164,950**

Presented to show home standards with entrance hallway, living room, open plan kitchen / diner & cloakroom together with 3 bedrooms & bathroom, garage and driveway.



**Suran Y Gog,  
Pencoedre Village  
Barry • £259,950**

Detached house with cloakroom, open plan kitchen / diner, separate utility room & living room. 4 bedrooms, bathroom & en-suite plus attic conversion providing further bedrooms with views. Driveway, detached garage and garden.



**Tan Y Fron, Barry  
£249,950 (Fixed)**

Beautifully presented home with porch, living / dining room, conservatory, kitchen, utility room, 3 bedrooms and bathroom. Plus garage conversion, landscaped gardens and driveway.



**Porty - Y-Castell  
Barry • £399,950**

4 bed detached house with panoramic sea views. 3 receptions, kitchen, utility room & cloakroom plus driveway & garage. Close to The Cold Knap, Romilly & Porthkerry Country Parks.



**Harding Close  
Boverton  
£135,000**

3 bed house with large kitchen / diner with French doors, living room, 3 beds and bathroom. Great value and an excellent first time buy.



**Camms Corner  
Dinas Powys  
£99,995**

Deceptively spacious and extremely well proportioned accommodation including a large living room, spacious kitchen, 2 good sized double bedrooms and bathroom.



**Mill Close,  
Dinas Powys  
£304,950**

Located on the fringe of the Square. Stunning dual aspect family room, kitchen, study, cloakroom, 3 beds & bathroom. Driveway, garage & immaculate gardens.



**St Pauls Close,  
Dinas Powys  
£139,500**

2 bedroom house set in a peaceful location with living room, kitchen & porch together with 2 bedrooms & bathroom at first floor. Decked, low maintenance gardens.



**Tydfil Street,  
Barry  
£129,950**

Dual aspect through lounge/diner, kitchen plus 3 bedrooms (2 large doubles) and bathroom. Pleasant rear garden/courtyard. New kitchen & bathroom.



**Castle Drive  
Dinas Powys  
£177,250**

3 beds, bathroom, large 'L' shape living area and kitchen plus front & rear gardens, driveway and garage. In need of upgrading / refurbishment.



**Castle Drive,  
Dinas Powys  
£194,950**

Upgraded and refurbished 3 bedroom house with large driveway, garage and substantial garden. Open plan living accommodation, new kitchen and contemporary bathroom.



**St Davids Avenue  
Dinas Powys  
£189,950**

3 bedroom semi-detached house with attic conversion Porch, cloakroom, large kitchen / diner & living room, bathroom and single garage. Elevated position with views.



**Powys Drive  
Dinas Powys  
£218,950**

Immaculately presented and extended, semi-detached property with views. Sizeable living room, separate dining room, kitchen with breakfast bar, study and cloakroom with shower. Plus 3 beds and bathroom.



**St Ambrose Close  
Dinas Powys  
£199,950**

3 bed property with garage, off street parking and large garden. Also comprising a dual aspect through lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Potential to extend, subject to planning.



**Cae'r Odyn,  
Dinas Powys  
£224,500**

Extended property with kitchen / diner, 2 receptions, both with French doors. 4 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, car port and driveway parking.



**Highwalls  
Avenue,  
Dinas Powys  
£229,950**

Refurbished, 2 bedroom, ground floor flat with large garden. Access onto and views over Dinas Powys Golf Club.



**Powys Gardens  
Dinas Powys  
£259,950**

Extended house comprising kitchen & breakfast room, 3 receptions, hallway & cloakroom plus 4 bedrooms, bathroom and shower room. Landscaped gardens.



**Cardiff Road,  
Dinas Powys  
£269,950**

Upgraded & refurbished to offer a kitchen & breakfast room, living room with wood burning stove, dining room with open fire, hallway, 3 bedrooms and a bathroom. Driveway, garage & sizeable garden.



**The Old Court  
Dinas Powys  
£299,950**

Grade 2 listed and boasting numerous period features. Sympathetically refurbished with impressive finishes, underfloor heating and recessed lighting.



**Powys Gardens  
Dinas Powys  
£299,950**

Affordable 5 bed family house with kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, dual aspect living room, plus study / second reception. Large landscaped gardens.



**Windyridge  
Dinas Powys  
£369,950**

Accommodation extending to c.2,000 sq ft comprising 2 huge reception rooms, dining room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and double garage.



**Millbrook Close  
Dinas Powys  
£375,000**

Executive, 5 bed house with impressive accommodation including 3 receptions, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom, master bedroom with en-suite, front & rear garden, garage & driveway.



**Derlwyn, Cross  
Common, Dinas  
Powys • £455,000**

Detached, 4/5 bed dormer bungalow enjoying a large corner plot, offering the potential to extend, subject to planning.



**Westra Fawr Farm,  
Westra, Dinas Powys  
£599,950**

Period property set in 1 acre. 4 bed main house with adjoining annex / 2 self-contained flats. Rare opportunity to merge / re-configure the two parts to form a larger, 6 bed residence.



**Cae Canol,  
Penarth  
£149,950**

1st floor flat on the popular Caversham Park development. Kitchen/diner, living room, two bedrooms and bathroom. Ideal first time buy, no chain.



**Andrew Road  
Penarth • £169,500**

Detached dormer bungalow. 2 receptions, kitchen / diner, cloakroom, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower and separate WC. Front / rear garden & off road parking.



**Great Thomas Close,  
Rhoose  
£124,950**

Mid-terrace house located close to Rhoose village & railway station. Kitchen/diner, living room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, garden and garage.



**South View, Rhoose •  
£159,950**

Extended house with sea views. Modern kitchen, large dining room with French doors, living room, 3 bedrooms and family bathroom. Close to primary school and train station.



**Plot 1 & 2, South  
Road, Sully £475,000**

NEARING COMPLETION  
Detached, new build, executive home with detached double garage set in landscaped gardens. High specification and finishes to include underfloor heating.



**Powys Gardens,  
Dinas Powys £189,950**

Three bedroom, semi-detached house with driveway, detached garage and pleasant garden. Living room, dining room, kitchen, spacious hallway, 3 bedrooms, bathroom and landing.



**Vennwood Close  
Wenvoe £197,500**

3 bedroom property with front and rear gardens 'L' shaped living / dining room with front bay window and French doors. Kitchen, 3 bedrooms and family bathroom.



**Springfield Close  
Wenvoe • £379,950**

Well appointed house comprises 3 receptions, kitchen/diner, utility room & substantial, full width conservatory. Plus 4 double bedrooms, family bathroom, gated driveway & rear garden / courtyard.



**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 12 February 2014**

 Vale of Glamorgan Council
  Hafod Housing Association
  Newydd Housing Association
  Unleash Wales
  Vale and West Housing Association



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at **HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** or apply in writing to:

**Vale of Glamorgan Council**  
Visible Services and Housing  
Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or  
**Newydd Housing Association**  
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

**ANDREW ROAD, PENARTH**

H4U reference 236896  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £102.82 per week including water charges

**ARTHUR DAVIS COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1112487  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets

- One-bed flat (no lift)
- Lower ground floor
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Scheme co-ordinator
- Communal doors/gardens

Rent £108.77 per week including service charges

**ARTHUR DAVIS COURT, BARRY (2)**

H4U Reference 1112498  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets

- 2 x studio apartments
- Lwr ground floor (no lift)
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Scheme co-ordinator
- Communal doors/gardens

Rent £99.31 per week including service charges

**BUTTRILLS WALK, BARRY (3)**

H4U Reference 203080  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom flats (3)
- Ground, first and second floors
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £89.16 per week including water charges

**DOWLAND ROAD, PENARTH**

H4U reference 239522  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £104.19 per week including water charges

**DUNLIN COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1110685  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Level access shower
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing/parking

Rent £77.00 per week including service charges

Priority given to tenants requiring adaptations

**DUNLIN COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1112455  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bed maisonette
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Parking

Rent £86.99 per week including service charges

**DUNLIN COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1030100  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Enclosed garden

Rent £92.03 per week including service charges

**MEIRION CLOSE, BARRY**

H4U reference 216087  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £79.79 per week including water charges

**MERGANSER COURT, BARRY**

H4U Reference 1077852  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40

- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Parking

Rent £73.35 per week including service charges

**NARBERTH COURT, BARRY**

H4U reference 217512  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £95.02 per week including water charges

**NICHOLL COURT, LLANTWIT MAJOR**

H4U reference 235784  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £100.69 per week including water charges

**NORTH WALK, BARRY**

H4U reference 217988  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Communal gardens

Rent £89.16 per week including water charges

**PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY**

H4U reference 219704  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Double glazing
- Central heating

Rent £83.00 per week including water charges

**PONTALUN CLOSE, BARRY**

H4U reference 221109  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets

- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £79.77 per week including water charges

**POWIS VIEW, BARRY**

H4U reference 100590  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Rent £83.75 per week

**QUEENS ROAD, PENARTH**

H4U reference 242880  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Gardens

Rent £99.66 per week including water charges

**SALOP HOUSE, PENARTH**

H4U reference 244045  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Double glazing
- Central heating

Rent £86.53 per week including water charges

Priority given to applicants with an excellent tenancy history - no pets

**ST PAULS AVENUE, PENARTH**

H4U reference 245844  
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Communal gardens

Rent £83.00 per week including water charges

**THE WATERFRONT, BARRY**

H4U reference 1112475  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets

- One-bedroom flat
- Third floor (with lift)
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Parking

Rent £82.77 per month including service charges

Priority given to existing tenants wishing to downsize

**THOMAS COURT, BARRY**

H4U reference 1002502  
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets

- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Parking

Rent £74.56 per month including service charges



**You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.** When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

Newydd is a charitable housing association.

Are you a council tenant who has been affected by the bedroom tax?

Would you like to discuss the options available to you? If so, call our Money Advice Line on 01446 709312 for constructive, impartial advice.

This number is not a bidding line for properties advertised in this advert.







**Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry**  
2 Bedrooms, 1 En-Suite  
Excellent Condition, Top Floor  
1 Parking Spaces, No Onward Chain

**£108,500** C77



**Heathfield Drive, Barry**  
4 Bedrooms  
Large Garage  
Open Front Aspect

**£124,950** tbc



**Benecrofte, Rhoose**  
3 Bedrooms  
Large Conservatory  
Master En-Suite

**£207,000** D59



**Chris Davies**



**Bell Street, Barry**  
2/3 Bedroom Terrace  
Large Lounge/Dining Room  
West End Location

**£112,500** D61



**Gladstone Road, Barry**  
4/5 Bedrooms, 3 Receptions &  
Large Kitchen/Diner, En-Suite &  
Bathroom, Double Garage

**£214,950** E53



**Lakin Drive, Barry**  
4 Double Bedrooms  
Outstanding Family Home  
Uninterrupted Rear Rural Views

**£324,950** D56



**Heol Eryr Mor, Barry Island**  
5 or 6 Bedrooms - Superb Throughout  
Sea Views, Tandem Garage, Super Gardens,  
2 Receptions, 2 En-Suites, 6 Car Drive

**£325,000** C74

**Rhoose** 01446 711900  
**Llantwit Major** 01446 792020  
**Barry** 01446 700007  
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

**Lets!**

**Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry**  
C75 - £475 pcm  
Furnished, One bed, Ground  
Floor Apartment.

**Ash Lane, St Athan**  
F38 - £495 pcm  
Two Bedrooms, Kitchen Diner,  
Large Garden.

**Partridge Road, St Athan**  
E48 - £495 pcm  
Two Bedroom, Kitchen/diner,  
GCH.

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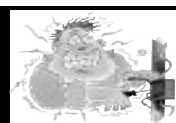
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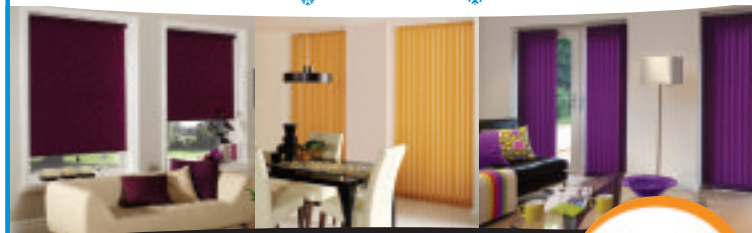
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## Family Notices

### ELLIS Graham

Jean would like to thank all those who attended Graham's funeral and for all the messages of support shown at this sad time.

Also, special thanks to Reverend Emma, and Robert and staff at AG Adams Funeral Directors.

### HUGHES John Morgan

Donna, Jo, Nathan, Helen and families would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral and also thank you for all the support given at this very sad time.

We would also like to thank the District Nurses and a special thank you to Dr Foreman who went above and beyond in the care she gave him.

### KIRWAN William (Bill)

Passed away peacefully on 29 January 2014, dearly loved father of Sharon and Sara; a cherished granpa to Matthew, Adam and Edward and great-granpa (Naps) to Archie and William.

He will be dearly missed by all his devoted family and friends. Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in Our Lady & St Illtyds Catholic Church on Monday, 10th February 2014 at 11am followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery. Donations in lieu of flowers may be given to Cancer Research UK c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please).

### BRADSHAW Keith

Peacefully on Sunday, 2nd February 2014 at Angelton Clinic, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend; Keith of Broughton Road, Wick, Bridgend. Beloved husband of Rosemarie, dearly loved father of Chris and Allyson, loving father-in-law of Cath and a treasured grandfather of his five grandchildren.

Funeral on Friday, February 14. Service and cremation at Coychurch crematorium at 1.45pm. Family flowers only, with donations in lieu as desired to Ward 3, Angelton Clinic c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend. CF31 1HE. Tel (01656) 650831.

## Thank You

### THANKS

Dave Pope would like to thank his wonderful wife Carole for his surprise 70th birthday party at the Boverton Castle, and to all his family and friends who attended together with their birthday wishes, cards and presents.

Also, thank you to the staff of the Boverton Castle, John of Silver Fox Disco, together with the many singers.

I HOPE YOU ALL ENJOYED THE EVENING AS MUCH AS I DID!



## Birthdays

### Happy Birthday

**GARETH JAMIESON**

(Star of screen & stage at The GEM) on 8th February

Best wishes from all your friends at The GEM



• 60 • 60 • 60 • 60 • 60 • 60 •

### Happy 60th Birthday

**Phil Creed**  
(7th Feb 2014)

The happiest milk man in the Vale

Best Wishes from William, Sally, colleagues and customers.

• 09 • 09 • 09 • 09 • 09 • 09 •

### Happy 60th Birthday!

**Glenys Thomas**  
on February 9

All our love,  
Gervyn, Liane,  
Carey, Danni,  
Iain, Emily, Gareth  
and all your  
grandchildren.  
XXX



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# Llandow blaze was 'accident'

A SOUTH WALES Fire and Rescue Service report has said that the fire at a Llandow recycling plant was started by accident.

The blaze, at Siteserv on the Vale Business Park, burned for more than two weeks after it broke out on November 26 last year.

In a statement, the Fire Service said no charges were to be brought and it considered the matter closed.

# Cowbridge traffic chaos after a car overturns

RUSH hour traffic heading towards Cowbridge on the A48 was disrupted yesterday (Wednesday) when a car overturned on the by-pass.

Police were called at 6.53am, and the presence of oil on the road led to a lengthy clean-up. Traffic from Bridgend was diverted at Pentre Meyrick towards

Llangan, and motorists had to find their way through country lanes.

A spokesman for South Wales Police said that the car driver escaped with "aches and pains".

It was the second crash on the Cowbridge by-pass in eight days.

The previous week, an incident involving a single car closed the Cardiff-bound carriageway on the viaduct for 90 minutes.

# Council takes on legal ownership of seized horses

THE Vale Council has been to court to take ownership of a large number of horses seized last November.

At a hearing on Monday, February 3, before Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Magistrates, the council was granted an application in accordance with Section 20 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

The application provides for the transfer of ownership to the council of the horses, seized from Swn Y Mor Stables in Wick in the Vale. This will allow for

the rehoming, where possible, of the animals involved.

The principal Trading Standards officer, Christina Roberts-Kinsey, said:

"The Vale of Glamorgan Trading Standards Department continues to actively investigate the circumstances surrounding the seizure, so we cannot issue full details of the case at the moment.

"We would, however, like to thank our partners, namely Redwings Horse Sanctuary, RSPCA and South Wales Police, for their support during this distressing operation."

# Wales ready for Irish test



Alex Cuthbert opened the try-scoring for Wales on Saturday against Italy - but will he and the rest of the Welsh team be celebrating a win in Ireland this weekend? Turn to the back page to read DON JOHN'S thoughts.

# Diets, fitness, and quest for weight loss - you get out what you put in!

IT'S February, which means that anyone whose New Year resolution was to lose weight and feel healthier, is now taking stock of how they are doing!

Oliver Trotman, a third-year undergraduate at Cardiff Metropolitan University, studying sports conditioning, rehabilitation and massage, offers his own advice.

Next year, Oliver, a former Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil, will be moving on to do a PhD in physical activity and health.

He is also the fitness and conditioning adviser to the Cardiff Blues Rugby Academy, which is based in Cowbridge Comprehensive.

**M**ANY individuals see this time of year as the perfect chance to make a lifestyle change, often health related; for example, drink less alcohol, eat fewer biscuits, join a gym or lose weight.

These new year's resolutions should be well under way by now and will be put to the test over the following months.

Information and resources to aid your quest can be readily found on the internet or in magazines, with numerous companies promoting a certain method of training, a specific diet or a selection of meal replacement products.

These companies implement clever marketing strategies to convince you into parting with your money.

There are a wide variety of meal replacement products that boast a healthy quick solution to your weight loss goals.

Different companies suggest different methods of how to use their products, but typically they advise an individual to swap real food for one of their products.

They will entice you with celebrity endorsements, sales figures and customer testimonials on a mass scale.

They might also add selective scientific explanations to support the claims associated with their product.

These products may also make you lose weight in a short period of time. Surely this is great, right?

For the readers who like straight answers,

the answer is no.

Weight loss and weight gain can be explained through the energy balance equation. Again, in simple terms, if you eat more calories than your body uses (for natural functions and physical activity) you will gain weight.

If you eat fewer calories than your body uses then you will lose weight. This essentially explains how meal replacement products enable rapid weight loss, as these products tend to be low in calories.

This can also explain how you could potentially lose weight by swapping nutritious food opportunities for a 200-calorie chocolate bar for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Is this healthy? No, because a chocolate bar doesn't provide you with the essential nutrients you need. Check the ingredients.

Meal replacement products also tend to be nutritionally poor. Don't believe me? Take a look at the ingredients label.

You will find that most of these meal replacement products contain large amounts of sugar and are limited in the amounts of anything remotely nutritiously dense compared to a healthy real food alternative.

It is my opinion that individuals wanting to lose weight need to address their current lifestyle with a qualified and experienced exercise/nutrition professional.

More often than not, it is a lifestyle factor that has resulted in the individual being in the position they are in.

If you mask a lifestyle issue with a meal replacement product, you get a short-term fix, not long-term health.

Would you rather lose weight in four weeks and revert back to your starting point soon after? Or lose weight over a longer period of time and keep the results?

There is no shortcut to health.

I would strongly argue that health can not be purchased in the form of a tablet, bar or powder.

Be inquisitive about what you read and believe. To achieve your weight-loss goals, you do not need to purchase meal replacement products.

Move more, eat nutritiously, the rest will follow... It really is that simple.



# Barry Chess Club's cup win

**THIS week, Barry Chess Club players have taken part in many different competitions.**

In the East Glamorgan Chess League, the Bosons took on the Camelots in a first division match. The Bosons won each board to record a 5-0 victory.

This was an expected result, bearing in mind the differences in the ratings of the two teams. The Bosons jump back up to second place in the title race but are still three points behind the Cardiff Castles.

The Camelots remain in seventh place, hovering above the relegation places. However the Cardiff Pawns lost their match, scoring only 1.5 points to remain 5.5 points behind the Camelots, but with a game in hand against the Monarchs to be played next.

In Division 4 the Gambits hosted league leaders the Nelson Griffins. Being outrated on all five boards we knew this would be a difficult match. Both Windsor Lewis and Phil Jones earned draws.

Dave Mahoney somehow contrived to earn a draw when he was two pieces up and should have been able to either exchange a pawn for a rook or queen a pawn. The final match ended in victory for the Griffins in a tight end game, but with correct play Martin Ricketts should have earned a draw. Although we lost the match 3.5 - 1.5 we should really have shared the spoils.

As January ends, this means that all 20 of our registered players have taken part in at least one East Glamorgan Chess League match.

On the same night as the Gambits match, we also entertained Abergavenny in a Welsh Knock Out Cup game. The ratings were fairly even, although slightly in our favour. Cup matches only have four boards and must end on the night in a tie break if necessary.

Quick draws on the bottom two boards for Dave Parsons and Steve Cunliffe followed by a victory for Abergavenny on board two, meant the outcome of the match would be decided by the final match.

As this was the top board, a victory for Barry would be enough to take the match on bottom board elimination. After a long game Lee Davis earned the required win to ensure the Barry team progress into the next round, when they will be away to White Knights.

There was also the five-round Swiss style South Wales Winter Congress. In this event we only had two players, Lee Davis and Craig Woolcock - our two most active players.

Both players were in a strong open section containing 34 entrants. Lee ended the tournament unbeaten, taking four points to finish equal third, just a half a point behind the eventual winners; Craig took three points, only losing one match against a Barry old boy, Joe Turner, to finish equal eighth.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at: [barrychessclub.yolasite.com](http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com).

PHIL JONES



Blues at the Question of Sport special.

## Rugby stars go head to head!

**WALES' rugby skipper Sam Warburton and former international star Martyn Williams (Cardiff and Blues) go head to head in a Question of Sport special at the Cardiff Stadium on February 27.**

The event will pit the two famous Wales and British and Irish Lions number 7s against each other in the fun quiz.

Martyn will be heading up the Cardiff Past team, alongside fellow internationals Rhys Williams and Tom Shanklin.

Sam will be opposing Martyn as part of the present team, together with Gethin Jenkins and Rhys Patchell.

The event will raise funds for Velindre Cancer Centre where Martyn and Sam are both patrons.

A limited number of tickets are still available for the event which includes a two-course meal, raffle and great entertainment at £400 per table of 10, or individually at £40. Tickets can be purchased at: [www.velindrefundraising.com/bookonline](http://www.velindrefundraising.com/bookonline) or by ringing 029 2031 6211.

## Good results for year-7 hockey

**COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School's year-7 hockey team played Bro Morgannwg in two seven-a-side matches.**

Team One drew their first match 1-1 and lost their second 2-0. Good tackling and passing by Beth Edwards and Poppy Jenkins was a feature of this game.

Team Two had more success, winning their matches 3-2 and 3-0; the players showing good skills were Ella Jones, Ffion Hughes and Stephanie Brownhill.

Goals were scored by Eve Mordecai, Ella K Jones, Ffion Hughes and Beth Edwards.

## Pencoed are stung by Bees

**BARRY Bees RFC under-11s were in rampant form this weekend as they took on Pencoed at the Reservoir Fields.**

Despite the treacherous conditions, the Bees were determined to play expansive rugby, and with the forwards, led by powerhouse hooker Isaac McBride, dominant in the scrum and at the breakdown, the Barry backs had the perfect platform to showcase their skills.

Jake Frost was the first to breach the Pencoed line, after a deft pass from Robson Mallam. Cole Saunders soon added another with a typical barnstorming run.

With the Barry forwards winning a surfeit of ball, the backs continued to run riot, and Jacob Pereira added a further score after another flowing move.

Charlie Bale then smashed his way over the line, to show that the forwards also knew how to score. Outside half Cole added a final try before the break, as the Barry backs continued to defy the slippery conditions with excellent passing and running technique.

Barry continued the second half in the same positive mood; tireless

scrum half Stephen Williams scored a superb try, after timing his run to perfection.

The unstoppable Cole continued to confound the Pencoed defence and added two more quick tries as the visitors began to wilt under the relentless Barry pressure.

From the restart, Kie Scurlock got on the score sheet, after adeptly collecting the ball and crashing through a couple of tackles. Jacob then battered his way over the line after another excellent phase of play that swept the length of the pitch.

It was fitting that Cole should add the final score to cap an excellent performance.

This was without question one of their best team performances of the season so far, and the Bees need to maintain this form for the tough fixtures ahead.

*Squad: Charlie Bale, Isaac McBride, James Campbell, Ethan Watkins, Dylan Morris, Joe Davies, Stephen Williams, Cole Saunders, Jacob Pereira, Jake Frosts, Spencer Williams, Joe Nationstead, Ryan Stephenson, Robson Mallam, Kie Scurlock.*

JM

## Barry Darts league latest

**FRIDAY saw the league singles take place at the Cadoxton Cons.**

With about 40 players attending, after three knockout rounds, the quarter finals saw the Poachers make up five of the eight quarter finalists.

Jon Hurn came out on top against team mate Richie Williams, while fellow Poacher, Charlie James, lost out to Dave Davies from the Mariners.

The two remaining Poachers, Ray Way and Terry Overton, won through to the semi-finals by beating Mark Jackson and Tom Morrison respectively.

Both semi-finals ended 3-1 with Dave Davies getting the better of Jon Hurn and Ray Way beating Terry.

In the final, Ray took a commanding 3-1 lead, only for Dave to bring the game back to a deciding leg.

In a very tight final leg, Ray Way got the winner by hitting a fantastic 146 out shot to win the match. As well as Ray's 146, Jon Hurn hit a 130 out shot.

There were 180s hit on the night by Ray Way, Jon Hurn and Robyn Loe.

I would like to thank



Ray Way.

all those who turned up to take part and help with setting up and organising the event. Also thanks to the Cadoxton Cons for hosting the evening and setting up the boards, etc.

RL

## Cowbridge RFC are undone by the weather

**IT'S probably just as well that last weekend and this weekend are international days, as it's extremely unlikely that any pitches would have been playable.**

The Cowbridge home game against Nantymoel on January 25 was postponed and our next league match against Tonyrefail on February 15 will be postponed, as we are playing in the last 16 of the SWALEC Bowl; by sheer coincidence, we have been drawn against none other than - Nantymoel.

This match will double up as a league match and Bowl match, so the score at normal full time will determine the result

for both competitions - unless the scores are drawn.

In this case, the score will stand as a draw for the league and extra time will be played for the Bowl. Thanks to fixture secretary Nick Jones for managing the complex negotiations.

The following Saturday we are away to Bryncethin and then it's home to Abercwmboi on St David's Day.

There's a break for the final two internationals until March 22 when we travel to Glyncoch.

There's plenty of rugby to look forward and a reminder that all Six Nations games are shown at the rugby club so please come along, whoever you support.

RV/RK

## Sully bridge club results

**MONDAY, January 27, North/South:**

1st Peter Millar/Mark Roderick 64.35, 2nd Bunty Wiseman/Jane Brook 62.04, 3rd Anne Johns/John Pikoulis 55.79. East/West: 1st Huw Thomas/Celia Thomas 70.14, 2nd Marjorie Morgan/Helen Jordan 62.04, 3rd Judith Owen/Janet Cunningham 60.65.

**Wednesday, January 29, North/South:**

1st Jayne Greatrex/John Pikoulis 56.08, 2nd Chris Davies/Vernon

Pearne 56.03, 3rd Carol James/Alan James 55.63. East/West: 1st Anne Johns/Bunty Wiseman 65.57, 2nd Carol Cochlin/Val Davies 59.02, 3rd Pat Verdon/Pam Sherman 58.81.

**Saturday, February 2, North/South:** 1st Patsy Cohen/Bunty Wiseman 73.96, 2nd Peter Millar/Trish Tracy 59.38, 3rd Kay Dyer/Reg Dyer 48.61. East/West: 1st Pat Verdon/Mary Cartwright 61.90, 2nd Una Gavin/Pat Walker 54.76, 3rd Ann Mahoney/Anne Mahoney 53.97. EK



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# Joy of six for Hockey Club!

**WITH the weather showing little sign of easing up after two previous weekends of high winds and driving rain, both Penarth Hockey Club sides had to battle more than the opposition last weekend, but a trio of hat-tricks ensured they emerged with vital points towards their respective Davis Wood Hockey League campaigns.**

Despite playing at a lower level, it was the 2nd XI who stole the spotlight by producing an exhibition of attacking hockey only previously seen in short bursts this season, beating Neath 6-2.

Determined to put daylight between themselves and their pursuers in the De Cymru 2 standings, the Vale side faced an unpredictable Neath side that they had only beaten 2-1 despite playing some nice hockey in the corresponding fixture back in October.

Although the conditions suggested that flowing game should be impossible, the home side set about the opposition from the opening whistle, putting together a string of slick passing moves that kept the pressure on the Neath end. This eventually led to the visitors conceding a penalty corner and, although the initial strike was blocked by the Neath keeper, Dave Kidby was on hand to coolly pick his spot and fire an unstoppable shot past the massed defenders.

Buoyed by the early goal, Penarth maintained the upper hand, and the passing game was quickly rewarded with a second goal, this time converted by veteran centre forward Dave Watkins.

Keen not to fall too far behind, Neath changed their tactics, throwing extra men forward in order not only to chase goals of their own but to disrupt the Penarth defence and stem the build-up of further attacks.

Despite being gifted a couple of penalty corners, the visitors were repelled until midway through the half, when a cross from the right was converted to make it 2-1, but Penarth countered the minor setback with two more goals before the interval, with Kidby and Watkins again sharing the spoils.

Turning around 4-1 to the good was not only unfamiliar territory for the home side, but could have led to a degree of complacency setting in after the break. However, with stand-in captain Rob Harrison calling for concentration, Penarth came out determined to add to their advantage.

Although ensuring that their substitutes remained involved in the game led to a defensive reshuffle that allowed Neath to pull a goal back early in the second half, Penarth remained in control, with Richard Bromily and Ian Smith again strong in defence and Tom Davies providing an extra attacking thrust from midfield.

With some 'total hockey' keeping the majority of the pressure in the Neath half, Kidby and Watkins both picked up another goal apiece to complete their respective hat-tricks and give Penarth their highest tally of the season, beating the five they put past Swansea and moving their goal difference into the black for the first time since opening weekend.

**After a good victory against Clevevillians the previous weekend, Penarth travelled to a very wet, very cold and very windy Hereford**

**hoping to extend their winning start to 2014.**

Skipper Mark Thomas welcomed back veteran Phil Lane and youngster Gareth Herman after both missed the Clevevillians match, but the weather conditions meant that Hereford Racecourse was never going to be the location for a high standard of hockey.

Both teams tried as hard as they could to get the game going, but things did not start well for Penarth as they struggled to get to grips with the pitch and the conditions, and it was only the sharpness of Mark Harris in the visitors' goal that ensured the match remained scoreless.

As the game wore on, Penarth started to move the ball well through the midfield quartet of Herman, Thomas and brothers Richard and Chris Baker, eventually gaining a penalty corner, which Baker Jr converted with a drag flick through the Hereford keeper's legs.

The goal provided the boost Penarth needed and, as the half continued, they pushed on, looking to double their lead as the front line of Lane, Matt Birch, Sam Wooding and Arthur Jones worked in rotation to find space at the top of the pitch.

However, with no further goals coming for the Bears, it was Hereford who took advantage, finding the net before halftime after some sloppy defensive play by the visitors.

Penarth struggled to get back into the game after the interval, and were further hampered by an inability to keep 11 men on the field. Twice reduced to nine men, the Vale side could not keep pace with their hosts, and Hereford again made the most of the situation by extending their lead

to 3-1.

With most things seemingly going against Penarth, the defence of Dave Stevens, Tom Haran, James Davies and Sam Docherty stood firm, and gradually gave the team the foundation on which to mount a comeback.

After some excellent passing, Penarth eventually gained another penalty corner, which Baker again despatched with a drag flick, this time in the top corner, and the goal provided much needed momentum for the visitors, who pushed on into the closing minutes.

With Baker's excellent stick skills proving too much for the home defence, the reward was a penalty stroke, which Baker duly slotted past the 'keeper to bring the sides level and complete his hat-trick.

The point was enough to confirm Penarth's fourth position in the De Cymru & The Marches division ahead of Saturday's home game with fifth-placed Cardiff & Met 'C'. The 2nd XI, meanwhile, start a run of three games against the teams immediately above them with a trip to Cwmbran to take on a Gwent side that claimed a hard-fought victory the last time they met.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sport Centre every Wednesday, with the juniors in action between 6-7pm and seniors between 7-8pm.

Further information can be obtained from club secretary Dave Stevens at: [d\\_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk).

CL

## Football club's race night

**BARRY TOWN UNITED AFC will be holding a special 'Dydd Dewi Sant Rasmus' social event on the evening of St. David's Day.**

This unique themed race night will be staged at the Sea View on Dock View Road, a short stroll from Barry Docks railway station.

Each race will have a distinctly patriotic flavour and punters are encouraged to wear the red of Wales; or even traditional costume, should they wish!

All funds raised from entry, the races and raffle will directly benefit the football club, who are hoping to also have one or two special items to auction on the night.

Tickets for the Saturday, March 1 event are on sale at £3 each (£2.50 for members) -

available at all home matches, as well as at the club's weekly lottery draw.

The first race will commence at 8pm, while the Sea View function room's fully-licensed bar will be open throughout the evening.

The Dydd Dewi Sant Rasmus event and eight individual races are available to sponsor now; with interested parties welcomed to contact the club via [barrytownunited@live.co.uk](mailto:barrytownunited@live.co.uk) with their requirements.

The entire Barry senior squad and management team will be among those in attendance, following their league match at Risca United earlier in the day.

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## TY HAFAN CHARITY GAME

THE former Dan Evans, Palms Bistro and Park Villa Sunday league football team are this year celebrating their 25th anniversary by holding a charity match at Jenner Park, Barry, on Sunday, March 23, against the Ty Hafan dads' team, with junior football games also taking place.

All proceeds will be donated to Ty Hafan Children's Hospice, the family hospice for young lives, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary, so please come along and support this special event.

Any former players who haven't been contacted, or anybody wanting more details of the event, please contact Lyndon on 07721 336450 or Jeff on 07926 346324; we look forward to seeing you there.

JH

## Robyn's first Welsh cap against Italy



**PENCOED PHOENIX** have their first Welsh cap – Robyn Wilkins – who played at centre against Italy last Sunday (February 2).

Robyn picked up the kicking duties for Wales, in a tight game that saw the Italians just edge out the Welsh, 12-11.

Above picture by Julie Hancock; see juliehancock.org for more pictures.

JH

## Members hold fundraisers for Philippines' typhoon relief

**PORHCAWL BRIDGE CLUB**

**DURING January, Porthcawl Bridge Club held two charity fund raising events to help with the Philippines relief following last year's typhoon.**

The events were world-wide simultaneous events – the same hands played in all participating clubs – with the club raising £150.

**Latest results are:**

Saturday, January 11: First – Liam Sheridan and Tony Haworth; second – Marie Hartland and Sheila Storer.

Monday, January 13: First – Peter and Sandie Jenkins; second – Trish Saunders and Pat Haworth.

Thursday, January 16: First – Rob Charlesworth and Adrian Thomas; second – Keith Davison and Tony Haworth.

Saturday, January 18: First – Liam Sheridan and Tony Haworth; second – Betty Longley and Roger Plant.

Monday, January 20: First – Trish Saunders and Pat Haworth; second – Tony Haworth and Gary Williams.

Thursday, January 23rd: Bridge For Philippines: First – Tony Haworth and Keith Davison; second – Gary Williams and Pat Haworth.

Saturday, January 25: Bridge For Philippines: First – Peter and Sandie Jenkins; second – Megan Taylor and Winnie Phillips.

Monday, January 27: First – Tony Haworth and Gary Williams; second – Trish Saunders and Pat Haworth.

Thursday, January 30: First – Gary Williams and Pat Haworth; second – Dil and Marian Evans.

The club meets three times a week – Saturday and Thursday at the Awel-y-Mor centre, and Monday at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel, 7pm – 10.15pm. Visitors are welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

## Wolves benefit from Lloyds' funding boost



**DINAS POWYS Wolves FC are grateful to everyone who voted for them in the recent Lloyds Bank community funding.**

The money received goes towards training venues for the players over the winter months.

As the weather has affected the past six weeks fixtures, the Dinas players have used The House of Sport and 'gol' to keep their Saturday mornings full of football.

Any local companies looking to sponsor the team please get in touch. Sponsorship can be as little as you want or as much as you can spare.

We can offer a lot in return; please phone the Vale club, Dan Jose, 07528 230362 for more information.

Pictured above is one of the many coaches at the Vale club, Dan Jose, with players from Dinas Powys Wolves FC.

LS

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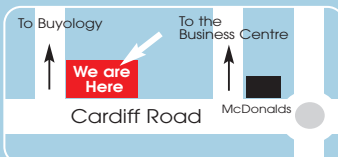
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# Rhose FC beat the elements to win in Llanelli

**RHOOSE FC travelled to Llanelli on Saturday for a Welsh League clash.**

Not having played for a couple of weeks due to postponements caused by bad weather, they were keen to be playing again and bring something home from this difficult away match and did not disappoint, battling through a gale force wind and driving rain to gain three well earned points.

The west Wales club, who were playing in the Welsh Premiership only last season and qualified for Europe, took an early lead when their top scorer Jordan Fellows seized on some sloppy Rhose defending to put the home side a goal in front.

Although the goal was against the elements, Rhose stuck to their task and equalised midway through the first half following a 30 yard

screamer into the top corner from midfield dynamo Richard Yarr.

Rhose continued to press well, particularly down the left hand side, and went close on numerous occasions through Jacob Daly and Nicky Davison. However, it remained 1-1 for the rest of the first half.

Playing against the elements in the second half seemed to suit Rhose better. With the ball 'holding up' they were able to control the game to an extent, were more accurate in passing and therefore retaining possession.

With time going on the home team seemed to be getting anxious to score and pushed on with a strong wind at their backs, leaving some gaps in midfield and in defence. Rhose took full advantage of this to score on the break in the 70th minute.

Great work by

Richard Yarr, who battled to win the ball in midfield, saw him float an inch perfect pass down the right. The Vale side's top marksman Drew Fahiya calmly slotted the ball home between the keeper's legs to give the Vale side the lead.

The goal seemed to galvanise the away side somewhat and they saw out the game the stronger it has to be said - and indeed had numerous chances to put the game beyond doubt; one a thumping 20 yard drive from Jacob Daly which saw the Llanelli keeper Wyn Walters make an unbelievable save, diving to his right to beat away what seemed a certain goal.

The Vale side held out to the final whistle to the great satisfaction of the Rhose boss Paul Giles, who remarked: "A different Rhose side turned up this week, one that wanted to put a shift in, get behind the ball when required and then break with pace and purpose."

"I'm really proud of my players to come to a place like this, to a top class outfit in every respect, and not only come away with a win, but dominate the latter stages as we did. I just hope we can push on from here now with two tough away games to come at Llanwrnwy and Risca; we'll be looking to get something from those games."

As Gilo alluded to, Rhose will be away for the next two games to Llanwrnwy and Risca United respectively, before returning home again to Jenner Park on February 22 for the next home game against Cwmaman Institute.

**Rhose FC squad:** Damian Lack; Craig Green; Oliver Dalton; Matthew Phillips; Chris Hynam; Drew Fahiya; Liam Jones; Richard Yarr; Jacob Daly; Nicky Davison; Joseph Hinds; Gareth Powner; Sion Anstee; Mike Lewis.

## COWBRIDGE DARTS LEAGUE

**ON Tuesday, January 28, there was a full programme of league matches scheduled.**

Unfortunately two teams could not raise a team that evening, The Star Inn and the Edmondson C, hence the Edmondson B and the Cross Inn were each awarded 9 points. Llanharri remained the league's only unbeaten team, defeating the Old Post Ladies 9-0. The Farmers Arms came out on top in a close match, winning 5-4 against the Highwayman Inn, while the Hare and Hounds lost 3-6 to the Edmondson A.

So the league standings are: Llanharri (89 points), Edmondson B (79), Cross Inn (52), Edmondson C and Hare and Hounds (50), Edmondson A (47), Farmers Arms (43), Highwayman Inn (42), Old Post Ladies (20), The Star Inn (14).

The next matches are on Tuesday, February 11, when the Clive Blick

Trophy concludes. The semi-final line up is: Sally McCaver, Rob McCaver and John Izzard (Hare & Hounds) versus Rosie McCaver, Paul Ward, Alun Evans and Jon Williams (Hare & Hounds) and Maureen Fleming, Nigel Thomas and Robert Jones (Farmers Arms) versus Linda Smith, Nick Smith and John Davies (Edmondson C). The games will be played at the Old Post with the first semi-final starting at 8.30pm and spectators are welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

It is time to start thinking about next season! If a group of you is interested in forming a team (six players minimum) and your local pub is willing to host you, get in touch and register your interest.

PJT

## St Cyres pupils in winning Welsh team



**THREE pupils from the Hearing Resource Base at St Cyres took part in a demonstration of rugby training techniques at Cardiff Arms Park on Sunday, January 26.**

Leam Tucker, Ryan Payne and Johnathan Jayne joined other deaf

pupils from across south Wales to show off their skills to spectators at the match between the Welsh and English deaf rugby teams.

In spite of the bad weather, they put on a great show at half time and soon forgot about the rain when Wales won resoundingly, 36-3.

SB

## THE SCORPIONS NAME NEW STAFF

**SOUTH Wales Scorpions, who are now based at Maesteg RFC, have confirmed their new head coach and three new back-room staff for 2014.**

Last year's Wales Dragonhearts coach Mike Grady has been appointed as their new head coach replacing Dave Clark, and he said: "I'm delighted to have been given this opportunity and I'm really looking forward to getting going. It sounds like that there is a lot of enthusiasm and I've heard there's a good support network at the club and in the area."

Stuart Williams, assistant coach at the Scorpions for the past two years, and Dean Fouache, who was strength and conditioning coach for the same length of time, have each decided not to continue in their roles. The club would like to thank them for their excellent work over the last two years and

wish them all the best for the future.

The new assistant coach will be 29-year old Paul Emanuelli, who has played local rugby in south Wales, in both codes, all of his life.

The new strength and conditioning coach is 27-year-old Irishman Greg Foley, which means the club now has two men from the Emerald Isle on their staff, joining physiotherapist Brian Downey.

Finally, Stuart Hogg, director of learning at the Wales Rugby League Academy based at Maesteg School, has been appointed as the new partnerships manager at the club, which he will do alongside his teaching role.

For more information on tickets, etc, go to scorpionsrfc.com.

## Cottrell ladies look back over season

**THE Cottrell Park ladies attended their end of season dinner recently.**

Helen Evans, the friendly team captain, gave a report on how the team had done and how everyone involved had enjoyed playing; she was grateful for the support from so many ladies.

Sian Lovell, the second team captain, reported

ed on how the team had performed - in spite of sickness and other problems, the team managed to remain in the same division. Sian was presented with a cup by the ladies captain Tessa Matthews for the outstanding player in the second team.

This was followed by Helen Little, first team captain, who reported on how the first team had remained in Division 2 again in spite of many difficulties with players being unavailable due to illness - it was a great achievement.

Helen announced she was standing down as first team captain after five years and Sian Lovell was taking over.

The evening was very enjoyable and informative, and ended with the three team captains being presented with bouquets of flowers.

CB

## Penllyn bridge club results

**PENLYN Bridge Club results for January 2014 were as follows:**

Thursday, January 2 (13 pairs) - first: Dorothy Williams & Pam Hanmer 58.5%, second: Colin Easterbrook & Viv Roberts 57%, third: Helen & Mike Rutledge 56.82%.

Thursday, January 9 (20 pairs) - first: John Lord & Joe Isley 63.64%, joint second: Barbara Easterbrook & Marian East, and Dorothy Williams & Pam Hanmer 61.11%.

Thursday, January 16 (21 pairs) - first: Joyce Holloway & Ian Dunglein 60%, second: David & Marion Stevenson 58.84%, third: Judith & Colin Nunn 56.67%.

Thursday, January 23 (19 pairs) - first: Sally Kennedy & Catherine Domican 60.63%, second: Phil & Lou Edwards 59.94%, third: Alban &

Gwenyth Wilde 59.38%, Thursday, January 30 (16 pairs) Robert Brown Cup - first: Sally Casey & Ann Richards 60.39%, second: Jo Isley & John Lord 58.77%, third: Ian Dunglein & Joyce Holloway 57.79%.

CN

## Llantwit Major & District Dart League tables

**'A' league table:**

Shoes Peterston 124, Wenvoe Arms 119, Carpenters Arms 112, Kings Head 'A1' 104, Fox & Hounds 99, Lamb & Flag 95, Golden Cups 86, Blacksmith Arms 'A2' 85, Shoes St Athan 83, Rugby Club 80, Four Bells 78, Blacksmith Arms 'A1' 65, Kings Head 'A2' 50.

**'C' league table:**

Lamb & Flag 'C1' 159, Kings Head 'C1' 119, Lamb & Flag 'C2' 119, Carpenters Arms 114, Shoes St Athan 114, Golf Club 102, Kings Head 'C2' 64, Rugby Club 45.

DC

## MILO IS THE MAN FOR EVAN

**THE wet weather has hit race meetings all over the country. However, the recent Taunton fixture survived a 7am inspection and Llanrcarfan's Evan Williams saw his strongly fancied**

**Milo Man land the EPDS Racing Welfare BTO Novices' Hurdle.**

Confidently ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, *Milo Man*, an odds-on favourite, romped home 11 lengths ahead of 20-1 outsider *Liberty One*.

**COPPER TAKES ELECTRICAL RACE** Copper Birch, trained at Llanrcarfan by Evan Williams, landed the *Iwec Electrical Maiden Hurdle* at rainsoaked Ffos Las last Saturday.

Confidently ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, the six-year-old, who was made the 9-4 favourite, romped home 21 lengths ahead of Rebecca Curtis' Red Devil Lads.

In his Saturday Daily Mirror racing column, Evan advised readers that his Firebird Flyer had an each-way chance in the Burns Pet West Wales Grand National and the seven-year-old ran a cracker of a race under Adam Wedge to finish runner-up to Venitia Williams' Emperor's Choice.

Those readers who took the 25-1 odds on Firebird Flyer, which were available in the

morning, had plenty to smile about.

**KAYF MOSS** Bridgend's John Flint took The Professional Security Management Handicap Hurdle with his promising six-year-old Kayf Moss, who, ridden by T J O'Brien, easily accounted for Buckhorn Tom.

A winner at Leicester 11 days previously, Kayf Moss is certainly one to watch when the going is on the heavy side.

**MILBOROUGH** Aberthin's Tim Vaughan sent Milborough on the long journey to Wetherby to contest the Totepool Towton Novices' Chase.

However, the eight-year-old could only finish a well beaten second to Ely Brown in a field of just five runners.

**BRACE'S ACROSS** THE CARD DOUBLE David Brace OBE, of the Dunraven Stud in Pyle, had a rare across the card double last Sunday when his Bob The Butcher took the open maiden race at the Mid Devon Point-To-Point at Blackforest Lodge and his Dunraven Prince landed the club members' race at the South Dorset meeting at Milborne, St Andrew.

Bob The Butcher, an 8-1 chance, was partnered by Bradley Gibbs and Dunraven Prince, a 9-4 chance, was ridden by Sean Brown.

BRIAN LEE

## Lady golfers play on through damp January

**THE latest results from Dinas Powys Golf Club ladies' section are as follows:**

Autumn Eclectic 2013: first, Sian Smith, 36 gross -5.25 = 30.75nett; second, Louise Wilding, 34 gross -2.5 = 31.50 nett; Lisa Ryley, 36 gross -4.5 = 31.50 nett; Angela Brown, 37 gross -4.75 = 32.25 nett.

January 7, a nine-hole medal: first, Lisa Ryley 43 gross -9 = 34 nett; second, Sian Smith 47 gross -10.5 = 36.5nett; third, Ruth Yates 48 gross -11 = 37.0 nett.

January 14, a nine-hole Stableford: first, Audrey Harwood 22; second, Angela Brown 20; third, Louise Wilding 18 on back six from June Jones 18.

January 21, a nine-hole medal: Louise Wilding, 40 gross -5 = 35 nett; second, Lisa Ryley, 45 gross -9 = 36 nett; third, Sian Smith, 47 gross -10.5 = 36.5 nett.

RY

## Llantwit under-12s defeat Dinas Powys

**WITH hail lashing down just prior to kick off the fans who braved the elements were treated to a fantastic contest of under-12s rugby.**

With Dinas Powys missing some key players the Llantwit Major side fancied their chances of challenging a Dinas side who have progressed to the last eight of the Blues Cup.

Dinas started strong playing their usual brand of attacking rugby, however the Llantwit defence led by flankers Oskar Williams and Luke Hinken-Evans was in no mood to buckle.

As both sides tried to entertain Llantwit started to press home territorial advantage and came close to scoring when Ethan White broke away from a scrum to get dragged into touch 10

yards out. White popped the ball out Cully Harrington showed good strength to get over the line and score the first try. After a neat conversion Llantwit were 7-0 up with a minute to go.

Following the kick off, Llantwit looked to move the ball again but after a handling error Dinas countered attacked with ruthless efficiency to break away and score under the posts; 7-7 at halftime and the game was anyone's.

Dinas started the second half strongly, looking to play a tactical kicking game to keep Llantwit pegged in their own half while Llantwit looked to use their forwards to gain big yards.

With six minutes to go Pete Mitchell found himself six yards out and drove towards the line, but the Dinas tacklers dragged him down, getting underneath him to prevent the try.

Llantwit were in no mood to let the rare chance for a win against Dinas slip and following some excellent defensive pressure the ball spilt out of ruck and Mitchell scooped the ball and crashed over the line.

Ethan White struck the conversion over and Llantwit found themselves 14-7 up with seconds to go, taking a hard earned victory against a very good team.

An impressive performance for both the Llantwit players and supporters to be proud of, as they continue to improve their standards on the pitch.

TJ





# GEM sport



## Wales and the Six Nations

One down, now Dragon heads for Dublin cauldron



# The real Wales must step up to meet Irish threat

**W**HILE most post-match pundits were less than fulsome about the Welsh team's patchy display in the hard-fought 23-15 win over Italy at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium, on Saturday, the relieved head coach, Warren Gatland, had no such reservations.

He insisted – "We're pretty satisfied...It's a reasonable start for us. It was a tough run-out, and that's the way we wanted it."

Giving full credit to the livewire Azzurri, who had come perilously near to causing the first shock of the 2014 Six Nations, Gatland said: "The way they performed, I wouldn't be surprised if they won a few games in this competition. They won a couple last year and I think they'll do so again."

Even so, while admitting there were things for Wales to work on "in terms of finishing and being clinical," there were also "some positives"

### BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

to be taken from the opening game of Wales' bid for a record-breaking hat-trick of championships in the Six Nations.

"We know it's a massive challenge for us. As defending champions for the last two years, every team will be targeting us and will be up for it. We wanted to get this game under our belt and focus on next week" (against Ireland in Dublin).

Gatland's relief at a narrow result that was in doubt right up to a late Leigh Halfpenny penalty, was understandable, given concern over the psychological effect on young players going into the match of the bitter feud between the WRU and the four Welsh regions.

Just days before, the regions, who had given the WRU a final deadline of last Friday to sanction an alternative pan-European competition, had responded to Sam Warburton of Cardiff Blues being handed a WRU central contract, by reaffirming that there was no

agreement to cover this with the governing body.

It raised the bizarre prospect of the captain of Wales having no top team to play for, given the regions' stated refusal to field centrally-contracted players without such an agreement in place.

It all added to the general chaos and uncertainty of a situation that is hardly conducive to the Welsh camp's preparations for an historic Six Nations campaign, even if, as some suggest, professional rugby players should be able to switch off from the off-field distractions.

Indeed, the Welsh team appeared to do just that, for within five minutes they were seven points ahead – thanks to a swiftly snapped-up try by predatory wing, Alex Cuthbert, following an adroit chip ahead by outside half Rhys Priestland – who made an impressive return at outside half, following a lengthy lay-off through injury and subsequent loss of form.

Leigh Halfpenny landed the conversion, but 10 minutes later, opposing outside half Tommaso Allan reduced the arrears with a penalty, as lively Italy exerted pressure of their own – one huge touch-finder taking play to the corner, where only desperate defence kept them at bay.

After Halfpenny widened the gap with another well-struck penalty, Wales appeared to take an increasingly scrappy game by the scruff with a top drawer try straight off the training ground by Scott Williams, after a typically powerful charge through midfield by fellow centre Jamie Roberts (another making a welcome return from injury).

This brought the score-line to a healthy 17-3 lead for Wales at halftime and many, including perhaps the Welsh players themselves, may have thought the Italian attacking threat was nullified, and that a points blitz was on the cards after the change-over.

If so, they were given a rude shock, for in an

increasingly disjointed second half, the pendulum swung the Azzurri's way.

Indeed, while Wales suddenly went into defence mode and could add only a further six points through the boot of Halfpenny (who, uncharacteristically missed with another, for him, kickable attempt) the enterprising visitors scored two tries by their man-of-the-match, centre Michele Campagnaro, only one of which was converted by Allan.

He also failed with another penalty attempt which, together with a disallowed try by Sergio Parisse for a knock-on, was crucial to the result, hence the relief in the Welsh camp at the final whistle.

However, remembering a time, not too far distant, when it was said that Welsh sides

would have to be at their very best to have any hope at all of success, Gatland & Co will at least be encouraged by a result that again proved a good team can be well below par and still secure an albeit hard-fought win.

At least notoriously slow starters Wales are still on course for a third successive championship title (and who knows, rugby's golden grail itself – a fourth Grand Slam). Moreover, they know they can do much better.

Next up is the daunting trip to the Dublin cauldron on Saturday and Gatland said guilefully: "It's going to be tough for Ireland (who defeated a woeful Scotland 28-6 on Sunday).

"They've only got a six-day turnaround, so we've spoken about making sure we recover right. It's going to be a huge game for both teams."

The Irish, like France, who edged out a battling England side 26-24 in Paris on Saturday, cherish championship and Grand Slam hopes of their own – and see this as a needle encounter.

Gatland, though, has laid down this challenge to his young charges – "We have a chance to create some history, to do something very special... something that no team has done before... It's a real opportunity for us."

"This team can leave a legacy behind!"

### WALES TEAM

Leigh Halfpenny (Cardiff Blues), Alex Cuthbert (Cardiff Blues), Scott Williams (Scarlets), Jamie Roberts (Racing Metro), George North (Northampton Saints), Rhys Priestland (Scarlets), Mike Phillips (Racing Metro), Gethin Jenkins (Cardiff Blues), Richard Hibbard (Ospreys), Adam Jones (Ospreys), Andrew Coombs (Newport Gwent Dragons), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Dan Lydiate (Racing Metro), Sam Warburton (capt - Cardiff Blues), Taulupe Faleatau (Newport Gwent Dragons).  
REPLACEMENTS: Ken Owens (Scarlets), Paul James (Bath Rugby), Rhodri Jones (Scarlets), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Rhys Webb (Ospreys), James Hook (Perpignan), Liam Williams (Scarlets)

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